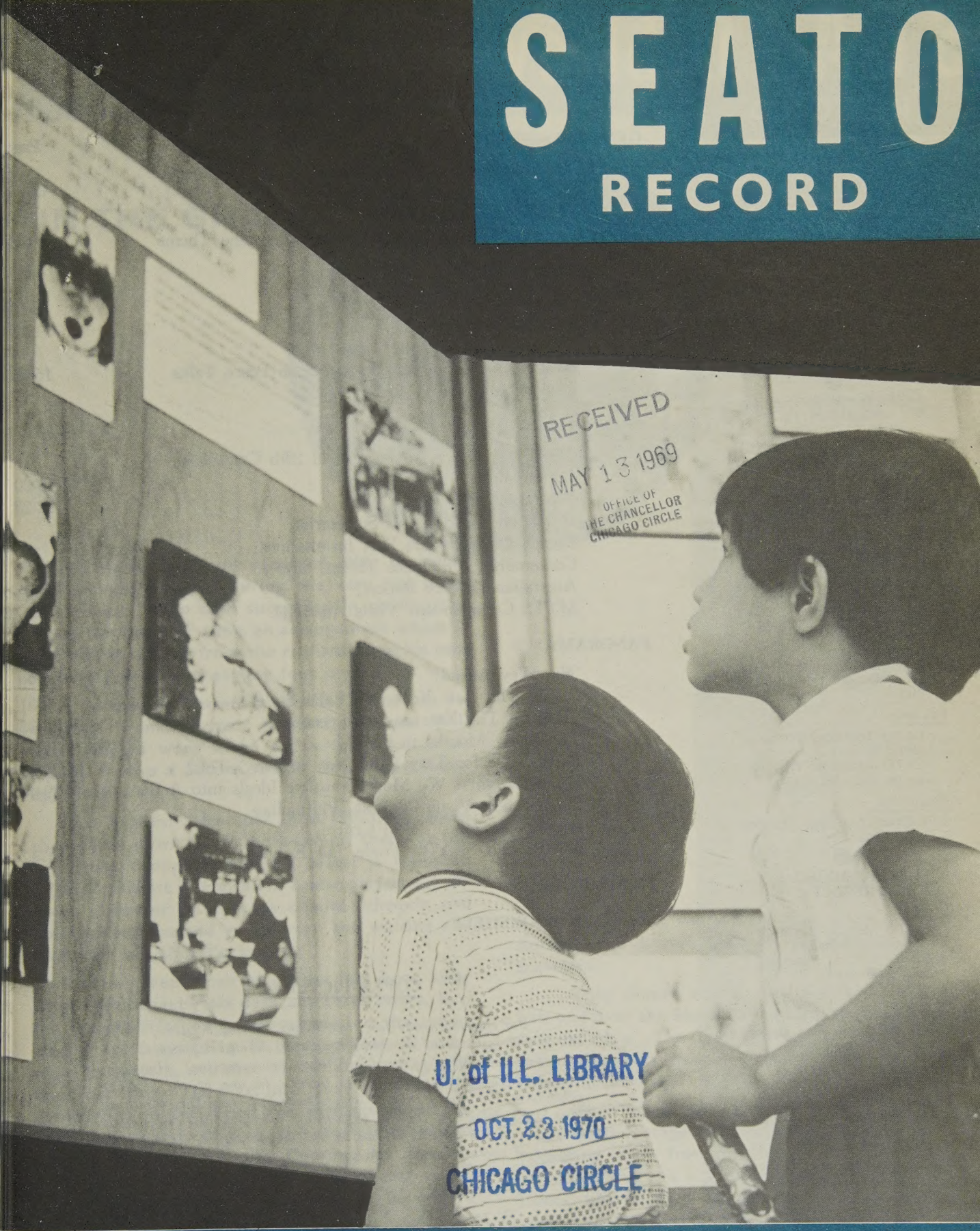
SEATO RECORD



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Vol. VII No. 6

December 1968

- *IN THE SHADOW OF THE MOON*
- *TOO MANY MOUTHS TO FEED...*
- *SEATO: THE YEAR IN RETROSPECT*

SEATO RECORD

SEATO RECORD features significant events in South-East Asia, as well as activities of the Organization and its member nations. It reports statements which reflect attitudes or policies related to SEATO's role as a defensive organization.

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SEATO REGIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTRE

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SEATO VEHICLE REBUILD WORKSHOP

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Teacher Development Centre, Bangkok.
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Pakistan —

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COVER PICTURE:

For tiny tots trade fair time means balloons, bottles of 'pop', sweets and lashings of ice-cream bought by indulgent parents. For these two youngsters pictured here it was no exception. However, they still found time to take an interest in one of the SEATO exhibits at Thailand's International Trade Fair held this month at Hua Mark, Bangkok. The SEATO stand, which depicted in various ways the many projects linked to the Organization, drew large crowds of spectators.

CHICAGO CIRCLE

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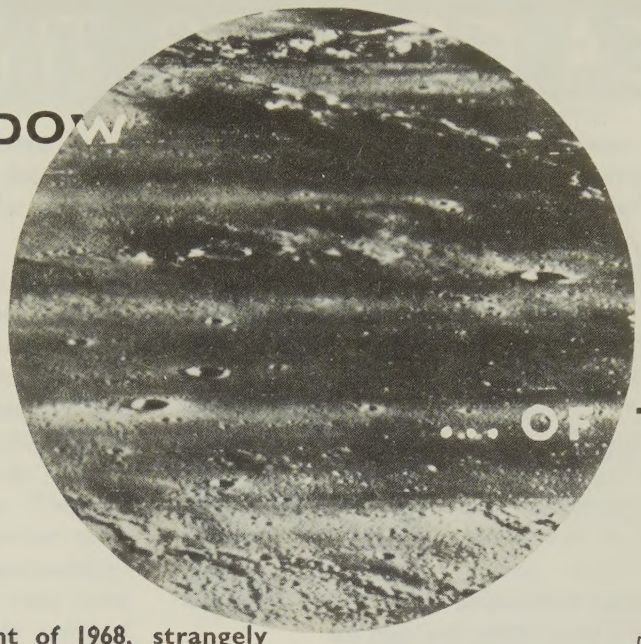
Up above the world so high...

IN THE SHADOW ... OF THE MOON



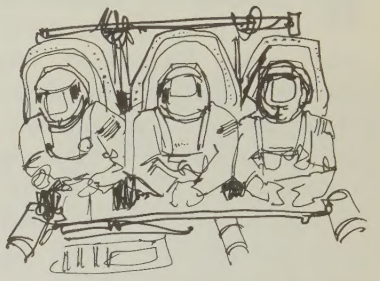
THE most significant event of 1968, strangely enough, occurred during the very last week of the year, when man succeeded in circling the Moon for the first time, an achievement which is just one step away from the realization of his centuries-old dream of setting foot on it.

It was on December 21 that American astronauts Frank Borman, James Lovell and William Anders were lifted off in their spacecraft Apollo 8 atop a Saturn rocket from Cape Kenedy, Florida.

It was on December 27, at 1550 GMT, when they came down from the heavens, their six-ton moonship dropping into the water a thousand miles southwest of Hawaii in a near perfect splashdown a matter of minutes behind schedule and only a few thousand yards from the waiting aircraft carrier, USS Yorktown.

The three Moon explorers had been away from Earth exactly six days and three hours, having travelled for 69 hours outward to the moon, circled it 10 times in 20 hours within 70 miles from its surface, and then raced home along a 58-hour corridor. The blast into lunar orbit was accomplished on Christmas Eve, with the astronauts flashing back to Earth live television pictures of its gloomy grey surface. As Commander Borman said: "The Moon is a different thing to each of us. ...It certainly would not appear to be a very inviting place to live or work."

To Astronaut Anders lunar sunrises and sunsets were most impressive.



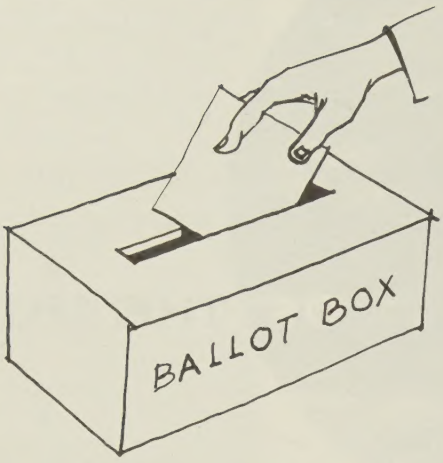
...three men in orbit perform the feat of the year

Anders, 35, was on his first space mission. Borman and Lovell, both 40, are veteran space travelers.

They moved across the Moon's equatorial belt and over the Sea of Tranquility on the Moon's eastern edge. The Sea, a prime landing site for later astronauts, had been chosen for special photographic scrutiny.

Then came December 25 and one of the most crucial stages of the daring journey—the rocketing away from Moon's orbit. "Please be informed there is a Santa Clause," said a jubilant James Lovell after the big service propulsion engine fired perfectly to free them of the Moon's gravity and put them on a return track toward Earth.

AMERICA GOES TO THE POLLS



Nixon wins on points

BY winning the Presidential elections in one of the closest political races the United States has seen for many years, Richard M. Nixon finds himself in a position at last of being able to champion his greatest cause, that of "bringing the people of America together," as he put it in his own words following the announcement of his victory over his rival Hubert Humphrey. It was neck and neck all the way between the two favourites during the three-day polling period following the electioneering canpaign.

Now that the results are confirmed people are pausing to take stock of the significance of Nixon's victory and to speculate upon his future policy plans. A hint of these has already been given by Nixon himself when he pledged that his Presidency "would be an open administration — open to new ideas, open

300,000 OF THEM

Richard Nixon pulls a message from a giant fortune cookie before a large street crowd in San Francisco's Chinatown. While on a campaign tour of his home State of California.

to men and women of both parties", adding that he wished to "bridge the generation gap, bridge the political gap by bringing Americans together".

These rather nebulous generalities will doubtless be crystalized into something more specific when he makes his inaugural speech to the nation on January 20 the day on which he will be officially sworn in as President.

Election fever runs high

The responsibilities that such an office carries today, with America in many senses at the helm of the Western World, were reflected by President Johnson in his congratulatory message to Nixon. "You will know", he said, "the responsibilities of leadership today are probably heavier than they have ever been before. They are certainly too heavy and too important to be also encumbered by narrow partisanship. I hope that our people will turn now from the divisive contentions of the political campaign to a united search for peace and social justice", said Mr. Johnson.

World reaction to Nixon's victory was generally favourable and comments from leaders of the SEATO member nations reflected Nixon's special understanding of the problems and difficulties facing South-EastAsian countries.

President Marcos of the Philippines said he believed there would be no serious changes in Philippine-American relations as a result of Nixon's election as President. "If there is going to be any change at all, then it will be for the better," he said.

Field Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn, Prime Minister of Thailand said now that Nixon had been elected, it was safe to say that "America's policy of opposing Communism will remain strong."

Thai Foreign Minister, Mr. Thanat Khoman said he was confident Nixon's election would lead to even closer co-operation between the US and the South-East Asian countries.

Mr. Harold Wilson, the Prime Minister of the UK said he looked forward to regular and close contact with President-elect Nixon on all matters of common concern. "Everyone recongnizes—now that the campaign is over and the decision taken—the tremendous tasks that the President is facing and everyone will wish him every success in dealing with these tasks," Mr. Wilson told the British House of Commons.

Mr. John Gorton, Prime Minister of Australia promised President Nixon close co-operation. "You can count on our understanding and our goodwill as you undertake the heavy responsibilities that lie ahead," he said.

Mr. Holyoake, Prime Minister of New Zealand said: "I believe the determination you will bring to your task will match the challenges awaiting you both at home and abroad..."

President Charles de Gaulle of France in a message expressing his warm wishes and congratulations on Mr. Nixon's victory, added that he hoped "the bonds that have always united our two peoples may contribute to the establishment of a just peace in the world."

Chicago turns ont in force as President-elect Richard Nixon threads his way through one of the crowded main streets during the election campaign.

A MUCH...

...TRAVELLED MAN

President-elect Richard M. Nixon has represented the United States in travels to 56 countries on five continents.

Much of his extensive travel abroad was made when he was Vice-President from 1953 to 1961, during President Eisenhower's eight-year administration.

On the President's behalf, Mr. Nixon went to the Middle and Far East in 1953, the Caribbean in 1955, Southern Asia in 1956, Africa in 1957 and the Soviet Union and Poland in 1959.

In 1957, Mr. Nixon toured Latin American countries, In 1959, he went to the Soviet Union, where he had the now famous "kitchen debate" with the then Soviet Premier Khrushchev at the American exhibition in Moscow.

Between 1953 and 1965, Mr. Nixon as Vice-President made five separate trips abroad, traveling 40,000 kilometers and visiting a score of nations.

Also during his Vice-Presidency he visited Hong Kong and Japan four times, made three trips to South Vietnam and Thailand, two visits to Malaysia, Pakistan and Singapore and the Philippines and one to Australia, Republic of Korea and Mexico.

His overseas itinerary included these other countries: Afghanistan, Argentina, Austria, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Republic of China, Federal Republic of Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, and Laos.

Thailand favoured Nix

we stand with him'

WITH Thailand itself on the threshold of national elections for the first time in 10 years, the recent Presidential elections in the United States caused more than usual interest in Bangkok and provincial cities.

For most of the final day of polling when it was still anybody's guess as to who would emerge the winner, people in Bangkok clustered around radios and TV sets in offices, hotels and private homes following intently the latest returns.

Meanwhile, in the auditorium of the American Universities Association, USIS set up an election centre complete with short wave radio and a large board on which results were recorded. People crowded the auditorium, some staying throughout the day, others coming and going to check on the latest results.

Each visitor was given an individual tally sheet listing each of the fifty states with electoral votes, and a booklet explaining in simple terms the somewhat complicated procedure of the United States Presidential election.

The reactions of the audience were perhaps the best indication of which way the Thais preferred the political wind to blow: Hurbert Humphrey's reverses and advances met with silence, but clapping and cheers greeted any increases in notes for Nixon.

Why did Thailand favour Nixon?

A prominent Thai journalist writing in a Bangkok paper the day following the election offered the following as an explanation:

"The reason for the Thai people preferring Nixon is not that they prefer the elephant to the donkey; they do not know the subtle policy differences between the Republicans and the Democrats. And it was not because they think he would make the best President, or that his becoming President would be best for the world in general. Nor is it because they

'we know where

were disappointed in any way with the Democratic administration of President Johnson.

"The reason is that they feel they know what the score is with Nixon. They believe that for Nixon to be President now is good for Thailand and South-East Asia. They believe that Nixon would stand up and fight the Communists, considered Asia's greatest threat today. They seek comfort in the thought that an America under Nixon would not be 'wisky-washy' about Communist aims in this part of the world".

Possibly the most considered opinion came from Dr. Kramol of the Political Science Faculty of Chula-longkorn University who issued a warning when he said:

"I believe that in the future the United States will not always act as the world's policeman and I do not believe there will ever be a second Vietnam. The United States will not send troops out again. However, they might step in to help if the situation became very dangerous," Dr. Kramol added.

Above, Nixon supporters whoop it up on the spacious grounds of the U.S. Embassy residence, scene of the U.S. diplomatic mission to Thailand's "Mock Election — 1968".

●

Balloting was heavy among those who attended the charity fund-raising mock election gala. When all the votes were counted Nixon emerged the favourite.

Pictured left is Mr. Ted Ashford, Assistant Cultural Affairs Officer, USIS Bangkok, announcing an up-to-the-minute election return at the AUA-USIS Election Centre.

UNITED NATIONS DAY

Human rights the theme

The Excutive Secretary of ECAFE, Mr. U. Nyun, is pictured here raising the United Nations flag at a special ceremony outside Sala Santitham.

AS the main agency of the United Nations in Bangkok, ECAFE (the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East) celebrated United Nations Day recently with a flag-raising ceremony outside Santitham Hall, and a reception attended by representatives of other offices and agencies of the United Nations and by many distinguished guests from the Thai Government and the diplomatic corps.

Heading the Thai guests was H.R.H. Prince Wan Waitayakon, the Deputy Prime Minister and a former President of the United Nations General Assembly. In a speech following the flag raising-ceremony Prince Wan emphasized that the preamble to the United Nations Charter clearly recognized that realization of the aims and ideals of the United Nations was not only the concern of Governments and States but also of their peoples.

"And in its first year the General Assembly firmly pronounced that the United Nations cannot achieve the purposes for which it was established without the widest possible understanding and support of the peoples of the world."

This understanding and support could be promoted in many ways, he said. The mass media of information had a great responsibility in this respect, for largely through their efforts could an informed public opinion be created.

"Teaching about the United Nations is another important way to promote understanding and support." said Prince Wan and went on to refer to a recent seminar on 'Teaching about the United Nations and International Co-operation,' held at Santitham Hall.

It was indeed a happy undertaking for Ministries of the Royal Government of Thailand to join with ECAFE and the United Nations agencies in Bangkok in bringing together 200 earnest Thai teachers

An international variety show was part of the celebrations held at Santitham Hall in Bangkok to mark United Nations Day. Here young performers stage a Burmese classical dance.

●

for this purpose.

"I am happy to learn that at the end of the five-day seminar it was proposed that a centre should be established—a centre composed of teachers, government officials, representatives of private organizations and individuals which would undertake to train teachers and hold seminars; arrange for teachers and students to work as United Nations trainees; and organize exchange programmes for teachers, both within the country and abroad."

The Centre, once founded, could certainly make a significant contribution, Prince Wan added, "for it is in the classrooms that the young consciously learn the most. And it is here that the teachers could make them see and comprehend the development and progress being carried out in their own country—not a miraculous transformation, but sure and steady progress toward a deserving prosperity.

"This is a good example of what could be accomplished by teaching about the World Organization. I cannot think of any better way of supporting the purposes and principles of the United Nations," he said.

United Nations Associations, along with teachers and the information media, were among the three most effective means of promoting the wider public understanding so necessary to the United Nations, said Prince Wan.

Development will reduce world tensions, says U. Nyun

THE Executive Secretary of ECAFE, Mr. U. Nyun, said in his speech that the year 1968 was designated 'International Year for Human Rights' as it marked the 20th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in December 1968.

After quoting extracts from this famous declaration, Mr. U. Nyun went on to say that those countries in the ECAFE region, which were daily concerned with economic and social development—and with regional co-operation to acheive such development—were very conscious of what U. Thant, the Secretary-General of the United Nations had said at an international conference on human rights held

earlier this year in Teheran. 'Economic Development,' the Secretary-General had said, 'which should permit the achievement of essential economic and social rights... requires mutual understanding and co-operation between nations.'

The common philosophy which has emerged within the United Nations regarding what are no longer mere aspirations, but rights, of every individual without distinction to secure respect for his dignity and essential needs as a human being is an important factor of harmonious world economic and social development.

Pictured here are some of the children performing a dance during the international variety show staged as part of the United Nations Day celebrations.

A major goal of the International Year for Human Rights, Mr. U. Nyun said, was of efforts to bring about the signature and ratification of the international human rights conventions, as well as the translation of these principles into legally binding rules under national laws.

"The Secretary-General has appealed for a hastening of the process of signature and ratification; and, so far as this region is concerned, I earnestly endorse his appeal.

Citing the main purposes of the U.N. Charter the Executive Secretary said that the accelerated economic and social development of the developing countries of Asia and the world will lessen world tensions and will lead mankind to peace and prosperity.

"The countries of the world are very closely inter-connected with each other. No nation however rich or powerful can expect to develop independently by itself, and no nation however poor or weak should continue to suffer alone in our bountiful world of today. Interdependence is a vital factor in our world and so is the existence of international machinery to promote an orderly world development," Mr. Nyun emphasised.

If mankind was to achieve lasting peace and prosperity, nations big and small, rich and poor, must all join together in a spirit of co-operation, understanding and enlightened self-interest, in a determined effort to attain these noble objectives.

"The countries of Asia look to the United Nations as their best hope for rapid economic and social development."

Mr. Nyun added: "One of the most positive features in the work of the United Nations and its family of Specialized Agencies in this region through the years has been the keen sense of mission and partnership that has grown not only among the Asian countries but also between them and the other countries of the world."

He appealed to all peoples jointly to apply their utmost efforts to supporting the noble and inspiring principles of international co-operation and mutual understanding.

"Thus on this United Nations Day 1968," Mr. Nyun said, "let us view the future with firm faith and determination. Let us recall the duties and responsibilities shared by all of us to seek to make the United Nations Organization increasingly effective in all fields of scientific, social and economic progress; in the peaceful resolution of present conflicts and in the prevention of future conflicts."

Paris peace talks:

WITH President Thieu's final agreement, after prolonged negotiations with the United States, to send a delegation to the Paris peace talks a major stumbling block to further progress in the negotiations has been overcome.

Nevertheless, a big question mark still hangs over future negotiations and the outcome for the present must remain open to speculation. Some observers and statesmen are optimistic of a fairly swift solution now that compromises have been tentatively agreed upon vis-a-vis Hanoi, Saigon, and Washington.

There may be room for optimism now

The main thorn in the side of the Saigon Government has been the representation of the National Liberation Front at the talks. Saigon has consistently refused to recognize the existence of this group as a legal entity. After a long diplomatic tussle with Washington, chiefly over "representation" issues at the talks, Saigon finally agreed to end its boycott on condition that both Governments virtually ignore the presence of the NLF.

President Thieu, however, warned that in spite of Saigon's agreement to send a delegation "peace will not be near when we sit down to talk with Hanoi. The few coming weeks or months will be difficult and there will be fierce fighting ahead". He emphasized, however, that South Vietnam would show its adversaries as well as its allies that "we have plenty of goodwill".

Meanwhile, at the time of writing the wrangling over representation (not to mention the shape of the conference table itself) still continues though at a reduced tempo, with the NLF insisting that it would attend the talks as an equal partner. So prospects for progress continue to rest upon many unresolved issues, the only safe prediction being that at least some constructive realism will now be injected into future discussions despite the fact that the bargaining is likely to be long and arduous.

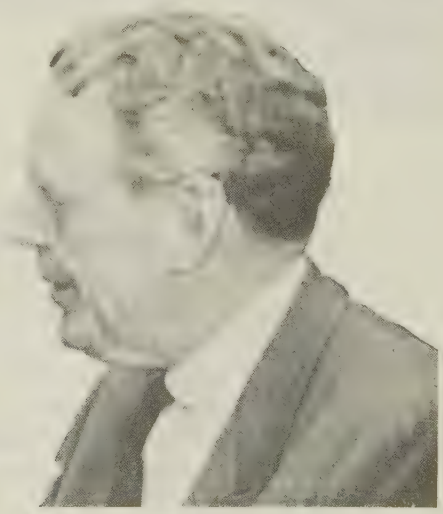
One who sees things in a more optimistic light is the United States Secretary of Defence, Mr. Clark Clifford, who said in a recent television interview in America that he was convinced "Hanoi wants peace", and that "the Paris talks will begin to become productive".

Mr. Clifford professed an optimistic outlook on the results of the talks, and said that there has been "meticulous compliance" by the North Vietnamese on the requirement that they halt all infiltration across the Demilitarized Zone in Vietnam.

With regard to truck traffic in Laos, he asserted that "it is not anywhere up to the level that it was a year ago at this time, and we attach some significance to that".

"The fact is," he said, "that there is not as large a build-up of either men and materiel now flowing into South Vietnam as there was a year ago." He added that he was encouraged by a feeling of movement in Paris. "We hope that movement will lead, within a reasonable period, to the start of the substantive talks and I think that our emphasis now is to look toward the substance and the results that can come out of the talks in Paris."

SECRETARY OF DEFENCE CLIFFORD



'Hanoi wants peace now'

Stressing his conviction that Hanoi wants peace, Mr. Clifford said: "I believe also that Saigon understands the basis on which an acceptable peace could be formulated today, so I continue to have the belief and even the convictions that these talks will begin to take place and will begin to become productive."

Mr. Clifford declined to speculate on the peace terms that Hanoi has in mind, but pointed out that "the attrition that has taken place with reference to the North Vietnamese military forces exceeds what they could possibly have contemplated."

Stressing the need to conclude the war, the Secretary said: "I believe that when the parties sit down in Paris, as I believe they will, I think all kinds of conversations can develop between the different parties and sides who will be there. I continue to be optimistic about the results," he maintained.

The Defense Secretary also foresaw a situation in the talks in which the lead in conducting negotiations "might shift back and forth from Saigon to Washington, and vice versa."

"With reference to matters that would involve specifically South Vietnam, in which they might have the major interest, I would expect that they could very well end up taking the lead at that time. There are other matters in which I think we might have the major interest," he added, "such as agreement for mutual withdrawal of troops that we might make with Hanoi."

Mr. Clifford maintained that the United States has no intention of halting reconnaissance flights over North Vietnam, because "it is exceedingly important to the President that he knows what is going on in North Vietnam."

"In the Paris conversations that we have had for all these many months," Mr. Clifford added, "it was made very clear to the representatives of North Vietnam that we would continue to maintain reconnaissance."

The Secretary emphasized that he would like to see the new phase of the Paris talks concentrate at the outset on "an arrangement for the diminution in the level of the combat."

"I think that the parties should give their attention mainly to stopping the loss of life, and I would hope that is as important to Hanoi as it is to our country, and I would like that to come first," he said.

He also expressed the hope that "we might begin to get into talks soon about reducing the level of our troops." He noted that "there has already been a rather substantial reduction in the level of violence since the talks started, but particularly since the bombing stopped on November 1."

Gorton welcomes bombing pause

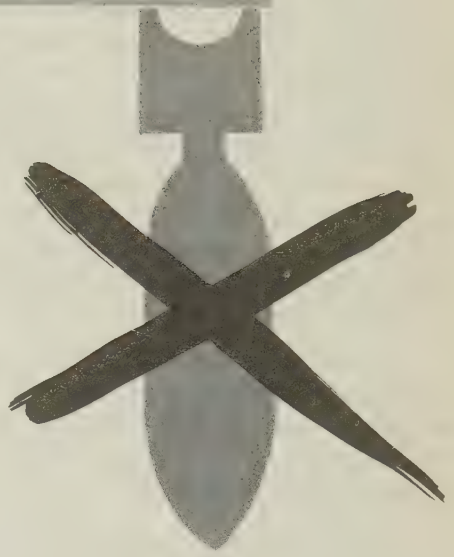
The Prime Minister of Australia Mr. John Gorton, said in a statement about the bombing pause over North Vietnam that it had been the attitude of the Australian Government that a suspension of bombing in North Vietnam would be justified only if in response some corresponding reduction in North Vietnamese military activity was occurring or could be expected to occur. "The Americans have shared with us the information which has led them to conclude that they can be confident there will be such a response. We believe there are good grounds for their judgment and sincerely hope it will be proved right by future events.

Real hopes for just peace

"A further expected result is that representatives of the Government of North Vietnam intend to enter into serious and direct talks with the Government of the United States and the Government of the Republic of Vietnam on the substance of a peaceful settlement. As these results occur we believe that they hold out real hopes of future progress towards a just peace. We will not be seeking to participate in these talks at this stage."

The Leader of the Opposition, Mr. E.G. Whitlam, said: "The Australian Labour Party welcomes the President's decision to stop all the bombing of North Vietnam. We have consistently urged this for 18 months as a necessary preliminary to ending the war."

THE BOMBING HALT



THE following is an extract of the text of the November 1st statement made by President Johnson on the bombing halt over North Vietnam:

"I speak to you about very important developments in our search for peace in Vietnam.

We have been engaged in discussions with the North Vietnamese in Paris since last May. The discussions began after I announced on the evening of March 31st in a television speech to the nation that the United States—in an effort to get talks started on a settlement of the Vietnam war—had stopped the bombing of North Vietnam in the area where 90 per cent of the people live.

When our representatives—Ambassador Harriman and Ambassador Vance—were sent to Paris, they were instructed to insist throughout the discussions that the legitimate elected government of South Vietnam must take its place in any serious negotiations affecting the future of South Vietnam.

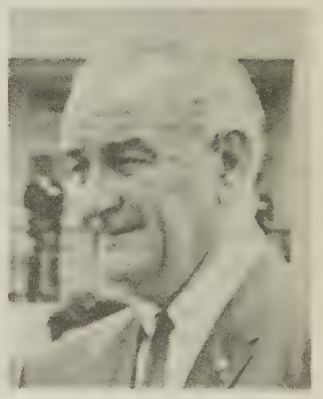
Therefore, our Ambassadors Harriman and Vance made it abundantly clear to the representatives of North Vietnam in the beginning that—as I had indicated on the night of March 31—we would stop the bombing of North Vietnamese territory entirely when that would lead to prompt and productive talks, meaning by that talks in which the Government of Vietnam was free to participate.

Our Ambassadors also stressed that we could not stop the bombing so long as by doing so we would endanger the lives and the safety of our troops.

For a good many weeks, there was no movement in the talks at all. The talks appeared to really be deadlocked. Then a few weeks ago, they entered a new and very much more hopeful phase.

As we moved ahead, I conducted a series of very intensive discussions with our allies, and with the senior military and diplomatic officers of the United States Government, on the prospects for peace.

President Johnson's statement



Last Sunday evening, and throughout Monday, we began to get confirmation of the essential understanding that we had been seeking with the North Vietnamese on the critical issues between us for some time. I spent most of all day Tuesday reviewing every single detail of this matter with our field commander, General Abrams, whom I had ordered home, and who arrived here at the White House at 2:30 in the morning and went into immediate conference with the President and the appropriate members of his Cabinet. We received General Abrams' judgment and we heard his recommendations at some length.

Now, as a result of all of these developments, I have now ordered that all air, naval, and artillery bombardment of North Vietnam cease as of 8:00 A.M., Washington time, Friday morning.

I have reached this decision on the basis of the developments in the Paris talks, and I have reached it in the belief that this action can lead to progress toward a peaceful settlement of the Vietnamese war.

I have already informed the three presidential candidates, as well as the Congressional leaders of both the Republican and Democratic parties of the reasons why the Government has made this decision. This decision very closely conforms to the statements that I have made in the past concerning a bombing cessation.

It was on August 19th that I said: 'This Administration does not intend to move further until it has good reasons to believe that the other side intends seriously to join us in de-escalating the war and moving seriously toward peace.'

Then again on September 10th, I said: 'The bombing will not stop until we are confident it will not lead to an increase in American casualties.'

The Joint Chiefs of Staff, all military men, have assured me—and General Abrams firmly asserted to me on Tuesday in that early, 2:30 a.m. meeting—that in their military judgment this action should be taken now, and this action would not result in any increase in American casualties.

A regular session of the Paris talks will take place on Wednesday, November 6th, at which the representatives of the Government of South Vietnam are free to participate. We are informed by the representatives of the Hanoi Government that the representatives of the National Liberation Front will also be present. I emphasize that their attendance in no way involves recognition of the National Liberation Front in any form. Yet, it conforms to the statements that we have made many times over the years that the NLF would have no difficulty making its views known.

What we now expect—what we have a right to expect—are prompt, productive, serious and intensive negotiations in an atmosphere that is conducive to progress.

We have reached the stage where productive talks can begin. We have made clear to the other side that such talks cannot continue if they take military advantage of them. We cannot have productive talks in an atmosphere where the cities are being shelled and where the demilitarized zone is being abused.

It was made just as clear to North Vietnam that a total bombing halt must not risk the lives of our men.

When I spoke last March 31st, I said that evening: 'Whether a complete bombing halt becomes possible in the future is going to be determined by events.'

I cannot tell you tonight specifically in all detail why there has been progress in Paris. But I can tell you that a series of hopeful events has occurred in South Vietnam:

(1)—The Government of South Vietnam has grown steadily stronger;

(2)—South Vietnamese armed forces have been substantially increased to the point where a million men are tonight under arms, and the effectiveness of these men has steadily improved;

(3)—The superb performance of our own men, under the brilliant leadership of General Westmoreland and General Abrams, has produced truly remarkable results.

Perhaps some, or all of these factors, played a part in bringing about progress in the talks. And when at last progress did come, I believe that my responsibilities to the brave men, our men, who bear the burden of battle in South Vietnam tonight—and my duty to seek an honourable settlement of the war—required me to recognize and required me to act without delay.

I have acted tonight.

There have been many long days of waiting for new steps toward peace—days that began in hope, only to end at night in disappointment. Constancy to our national purpose—which is to seek the basis for a durable peace in South-East Asia—has sustained me in all of these hours when there seemed to be no progress whatever in these talks.

But now that progress has come, I know that your prayers are joined with mine—and with those of all humanity—that the action I announce tonight will be a major step toward a firm and an honourable peace in South-East Asia. It can be.

So, what is required of us in these new circumstances is exactly that steady determination and patience which has brought us to this more hopeful prospect; what is required of us is a courage and a steadfastness, and a perseverance here at home, that will match that of our men who fight for us tonight in Vietnam.

So, I ask you not only for your prayers, dut for the courageous and unberstanding support that Americans always give their President and their leader in an hour of trial. With that understanding, and with that support, we shall not fail.

I think I should caution you, my fellow Americans, that arrangements of this kind are never fool-proof. For that matter, even formal treaties are never fool-proof, as we have learned from our experience.

But in the light of the progress that has been made in recent weeks, and after carefully considering and weighing the unanimous military and diplomati advice and judgment rendered to the Commander-inc Chief, I have finally decided to take this step now and to really determine the good faith of those who have assured us that progress will result when bombing ceases and to try to ascertain if an early peace is possible. The over-riding consideration that governs us at this hour is the chance and the opportunity that we might have to save human lives, save human lives on both sides of the conflict. Therefore, I have concluded that we should see if they are acting in good faith.

We could be misled—and we are prepared for such a contingency. We pray to God it does not occur. But it should be clear to all of us that the new phase of negotiations which opens on November 6th does not — I repeat, does not — mean that a stable peace has yet come to South-East Asia. There may well be very hard fighting ahead. Certainly, there is going to be some very hard negotiating, because many difficult and critically important issues are still facing these negotiators. I hope with good will we can solve them. We know that negotiations can move swiftly if the common intent of the negotiators is peace in the world.

The world should know that the American people bitterly remember the long, agonizing Korean negotiations of 1951 through 1953—and that our people will just not accept deliberate delay and prolonged procrastination again.

Well then, how has it come about that now, on November 1 we have agreed to stop the bombardment of North Vietnam?

I would have given all I possess if the conditions had permitted me to stop it months ago—if there had just been any movement in the Paris talks that would have justified me in saying to you: 'Now it can be safely stopped.'

But I, the President of the United States, do not control the timing of the events in Hanoi. The decisions in Hanoi really determine when and whether it would be possible for us to stop the bombing.

We could not retract our insistence on the participation of the Government of South Vietnam in serious talks affecting the future of their people—the people of South Vietnam. For though we have allied with South Vietnam for many years in this struggle, we have never assumed and we shall never demand the role of dictating the future of the people of South Vietnam. The very principle for which we are engaged in South Vietnam—the principle of self-determination —requires that the South Vietnamese people themselves be permitted to freely speak for themselves at the Paris talks and that the South Vietnamese delegation play a leading role in accordance with our agreement with President Thieu at Honolulu.

Seven months ago I said that I would not permit the Presidency to become involved in the partisan divisions that were then developing in this political year. Accordingly, on the night of March 31, I announced that I would not seek, nor accept, the nomination of my party for another term as President.

I have devoted every resource of the Presidency to the search for peace in South-East Asia. Throughout the entire summer and fall I have kept all of the presidential candidates fully briefed on developments in Paris as well as in Vietnam. I have made it abundantly clear that no one candidate would have the advantage over others—either in information about these developments, or any advance notice of the policy the Government intended to follow. The chief diplomatic and military officers of this Government all were instructed to follow the same course.

THE DIARY OF A PEACEMAKER

PRESIDENT Johnson announced the bombing halt over North Vietnam on October 31st, 1968, but he actually started three and a half years earlier to try and find ways and means of reaching some peace-making agreement with North Vietnam:

SEPTEMBER 1964: He made his first public efforts to get peace talks started following the commencement of air operations over North Vietnam.

APRIL 7, 1965: He stressed the readiness of the United States to start peace negotiations without prior conditions in a speech at Johns Hopkins University.

JANUARY 1966: He announced that air strikes against North Vietnam would be resumed after having been suspended a few weeks earlier at the start of the 'Tet' lunar year. At the same time he announced that he had instructed Ambassador Goldburg to seek the intervention of the United Nations Security Council to get peace talks started.

MARCH 2, 1966: He again restated his offer of unconditional negotiations and reiterated that the United States would stop bombing North Vietnam as soon as Hanoi would reciprocate by reducing its military operations.

OCTOBER 25, 1966: The United States and South Vietnam formally pledged at the Manila Conference to withdraw their troops within six months after the withdrawal of Vietnam forces.

JANUARY 1967: Another bombing suspension was ordered by President Johnson during the lunar New Year ceasefire. This bombing pause continued until February 14th, but Hanoi's response was that bombing against North Vietnam by the Americans had to stop not only "unconditionally" but also "for good".

MARCH 21, 1968: President Johnson, again striving for peace talks, announced that he had ordered United States air and sea bombardment of North Vietnam limited to less than 25 per cent of that country's territory.

MAY 13, 1968: The peace talks in Paris began between representatives of the United States and North Vietnam after much behind-the-scenes negotiations by President Johnson.

Laos denounces N. Vietnam attacks

A HIGH Laotian official has said that recent North Vietnamese attacks in southern Laos are "a flagrant violation of Lao national sovereignty and the terms of the Geneva Accords."

He added that Laos would defend itself to the end to protect its sovereignty and independence.

Khamphan Panya, Minister Delegate of the Lao Ministry of Foreign Affairs, made the statements in a press interview.

Mr. Khamphan was referring to North Vietnamese attacks on November 27 and 28 in the Ban Tha Teng area in Saravane province, southern Laos. The main North Vietnamese assault was repulsed by Royal Lao army troops on November 28 after a ten-hour battle. Forty-nine North Vietnamese and 12 Lao soldiers were killed in the fighting and three North Vietnamese were taken prisoner.

Mr. Khamphan said that on November 29 his government delivered a protest note to the International Control Commission in Vientiane. He said the note protested "North Vietnamese aggression and violations of the 1962 Geneva Accords" and requested an investigation by the ICC.

The ICC is composed of Canadian, Polish and Indian delegates with the Indian member serving as chairman. It is responsible for investigating violations of the 1962 Geneva Accords, which guarantee the neutrality of Laos. Fourteen nations, including North Vietnam, signed the accords.

Mr. Khamphan was asked how the Royal Lao Government would react if the North Vietnamese did not stop their aggression, or if the ICC was not effective in its investigation. He replied that Laos would defend itself to the end to protect its sovereignty and independence.

"If the task of defending our country is too great for us," he said, "we will search for all possible and effective means to stop this aggression. For the legitimate defense of our country, any means is justified."

Washington — Saigon statements on peace talks

WASHINGTON and Saigon issued separate statements after reaching agreement on the participating roles they will play at the new round of Paris peace talks. The texts of their statements follow:

WHAT THE U.S. SAID:

"This statement is designed to answer the questions which have been raised by the Government of the Republic of Vietnam about new meetings in Paris.

Prior to the President's announcement of Oct. 31 of the stopping of bombing against North Vietnam, agreement had been reached in Paris between North Vietnamese and United States negotiators that a meeting to discuss a peaceful settlement in Vietnam should be convened in Paris.

During the earlier discussions with the North Vietnamese representatives, United States spokesmen made clear that the stopping of bombing and the holding of such a meeting would not be possible without agreed provision for the participation of the Republic of Vietnam as a separate delegation forming with the United States delegation one side of the meeting. United States negotiators made clear to Hanoi that it might bring on its side of the table any persons it wished.

Two-sided meeting

The North Vietnamese representatives in Paris accepted this proposal and indicated that they would bring to the meeting members of the so-called National Liberation Front.

In the light of these facts the arrangements agreed in Paris provide in essence for a two-sided meeting. Hanoi clearly understands that our side will be constituted as separate delegations of the Republic of Vietnam and the United States.

Whatever others may claim, and however they may organize their side, the United States has not agreed and will not agree that the meeting is, or can

WHAT S. VIETNAM SAID:

"In its constant search for peace, the Government of the Republic of Vietnam has been discussing with the United States Government during the past weeks the ground rules and arrangements for the new meetings in Paris which would enable the Government of the Repuplic of Vietnam to send its delegation to Paris to engage in direct and serious talks with the Hanoi delegation, toward the ending of Communist aggression and the establishment of a just, secure and guaranteed peace in Vietnam.

As a result of these discussions the United States Government has submitted to the Government of the Republic of Vietnam a statement. By mutual agreement, this statement is being made public in both Saigon and Washington at this time.

In that statement we find that the major points in the message of the President of the Republic before the joint session of the National Assembly on November 2nd, the two-side formula proposed by the Government of the Republic of Vietnam on November 8th, have been given satisfaction in their essential aspects.

The sovereignty of the Republic of Vietnam has been respected. The governments of the other allied nations have been consulted and whole-heartedly support the agreements achieved through the close cooperation between the United States Government and the Government of the Republic of Vietnam.

WHAT THE U.S. SAID:

correctly be described as a four-sided or four-party conference.

Consistent with our view of the nature of the so-called National Liberation Front, we will regard and treat all the persons on the other side of the table — whatever they might claim for themselves — as members of a single side, that of Hanoi, and for practical purposes as a single delegation.

In the discussions between United States and North Vietnamese negotiators it was made clear throughout that, whoever Hanoi chose to bring on its side, the arrangement involved no element of recognition whatever.

An agent of aggression

The United States Government has repeatedly made clear, publicly and privately, that it does not recognize either the National Liberation Front or the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam).

Concerning the so-called National Liberation Front in particular, the United States Government has at all times regarded it as a creation of North Vietnam and an agent of Hanoi's aggression against the Republic of Vietnam.

The National Liberation Front is not in any sense a separate entity, much less a government.

Following the stopping of the bombing of North Vietnam, if Hanoi fulfills its repeated undertakings to enter into serious talks — undertakings repeated throughout the contacts between North Vietnamese and American representatives in Paris — the North Vietnamese delegation must talk directly and seriously with the Republic of Vietnam's delegation.

The main spokesman

In the Paris meetings, the Republic of Vietnam delegation will play a leading role, as was explicitly affirmed in the Honolulu communique of July. The Republic of Vietnam will take the lead and be the main spokesman on all matters which are of principal concern to South Vietnam.

WHAT S. VIETNAM SAID:

Once again, the solidarity between the Government of the Republic of Vietnam and allied governments has been eloquently demonstrated in the face of the intransigent attitude of North Vietnam and its auxiliary forces.

Therefore, the Government of the Republic of Vietnam decides that it is prepared to participate in the new talks in Paris with the Hanoi delegation to show the goodwill of the Republic of Vietnam and to test the good faith of Hanoi.

The new Paris meetings will be expected to explore all avenues to end Communist aggression against the Republic of Vietnam and to reach a peaceful settlement. They will start with a clean slate.

The sole agreements that have been reached in the earlier Paris talks between North Vietnamese and United States representatives have concerned the stopping of bombing and the convening of a new meeting. The United States considers that there cannot be productive talks in an atmosphere where the cities are being shelled and the DMZ is being abused.

In the new meetings the United States Government will operate in the closest co-operation with the Republic of Vietnam, and in continuing consultation with the nations that have contributed military forces to the defence of South Vietnam.

The substantive position of the United States Government will be based on respect for the sovereignty of the Republic of Vietnam and on the joint communiques of Manila and Honolulu. In particular, there has been no change whatever, and will be no change, in the position of the United States Government toward a so-called coalition in South Vietnam. The United States does not believe aggression should be rewarded and will not recognize any form of government that is not freely chosen through democratic and legal process by the people of South Vietnam. The imposition of any coalition government would be in conflict with this principle.

Prelude to PEACE is 'table' talk

'BUT NOT AT ANY PRICE'...

THE long-awaited Saigon delegation under Vice-President Nguyen Cao Ky arrived in Paris for the broadened Vietnam conference with a pledge to seek peace — but not "peace at any price."

With Ky standing by his side, Ambassador Pham Dang Lam set forth the Saigon mission's view of the peace talks;

Lam is official head of the South Vietnamese delegation, while Ky has overall supervision of Saigon's negotiating strategy.

Ky voiced hope for peace and called for an end to what he termed "Communist aggression" in his speech at the arrival tarmac outside the airport. Lam then went into some more detail in speaking to official greeters gathered in a V.I.P. waiting room.

"We are ready to sit down at the conference table according to a two-sides formula," he said. The two sides, he said, are composed of Communist aggressors on one side, and the victims of aggression on the other.

Lam said the allied negotiating team would be made up of two distinct delegations — his and the Americans — and the allies would negotiate with "the delegation of North Vietnam which will include its auxiliary force.

"This does not mean that we recognize the so-called National Liberation Front," he said. "This does not mean that we accept Hanoi's terms for peace.

"We came to demand the result of the determination of the Vietnamese — of the North and of the South — to bring an end to their war and to refuse to continue to kill each other for a doctrine which is foreign to them."

...PLEDGES KY

Ambassador Averell Harriman, leader of the American delegation to the Vietnam talks, was among the many senior diplomats who had come to the airport to greet Ky. He had flown in a few minutes earlier after visiting President Johnson and President-elect Nixon in New York.

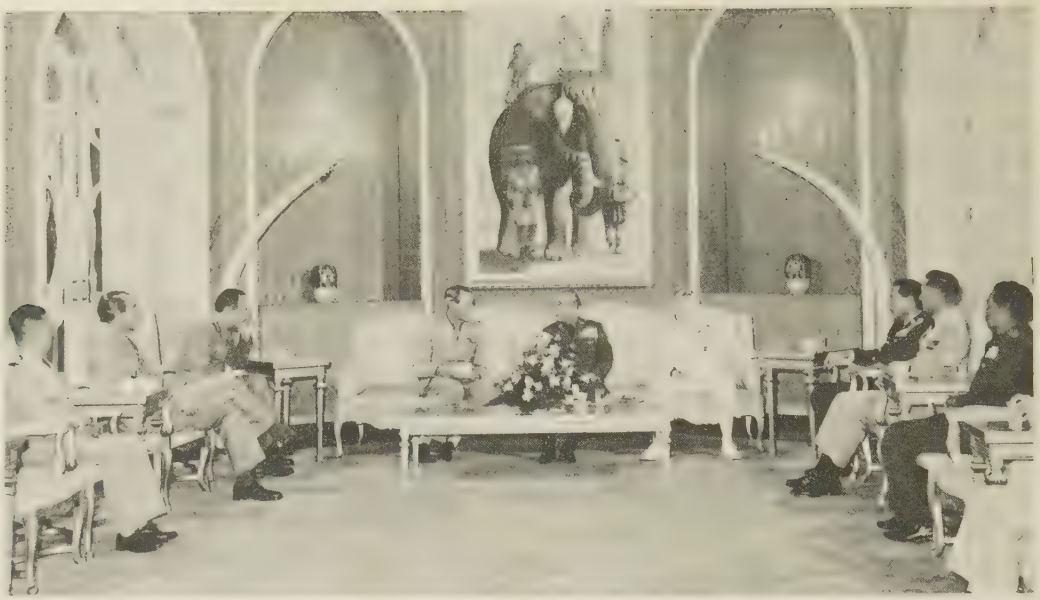
The Hanoi diplomats said they had informed the United States formally that unless the NLF is seated as an independent partner in the expanded talks there will be no conference. They did not, however, threaten to break off negotiations.

The Hanoi diplomats said they had rejected U.S. suggestions that the conference use a rectangular table in which each of the two enlarged "sides" would face each other.

"The conference must unfailingly meet around a square table with each of the four parties acting as an independent negotiating entity," the Communist diplomats said.

The issue on the type of table to be used has been one of the major stumbling blocks to an early conference opening.

SEATO MILITARY ADVISERS HOLD 29TH CONFERENCE



Military leaders from the member countries attending the 29th Meeting of Military Advisers of the South-East Asia Treaty Organization paid a courtesy call on the Prime Minister of Thailand, Field Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn.

They are pictured above at the Office of the Prime Minister.

●

THE 29th Conference of the SEATO Military Advisers opened in Bangkok on October 17, under the Chairmanship of General Sir Michael Carver, KCB, CBE, DSO, MC, the Military Adviser for the United Kingdom and United Kingdom Commander-in-Chief Far East.

At a ceremony held to mark the opening of the conference at the SEATO Headquarters building, the flags of member countries and that of the South-East Asia Treaty Organization were unfurled. Among those attending the ceremony were the Military Advisers; the Secretary-General of SEATO, Lieutenant General Jesus M. Vargas; and the Chief, Military Planning Office, Major General Autrey J. Maroun.

The conference discussed the Communist threat to the Treaty Area and the actions necessary for its defence. The work of the SEATO Military Planning Office was also reviewed and updated during the meeting. Military Advisers attending the Conference were:

General Sir John Wilton, KBE, CB, DSO, Chairman of the Australian Chiefs of Staff Committee;

Lieutenant General Sir Leonard Thornton, KCB, CBE, Chief of the New Zealand Defence Staff;

General Manuel T. Yan, AFP, Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines;

Air Chief Marshal Dawee Chullasrapaya Chief of Staff, Supreme Command, Royal Thai Armed Forces;

Admiral John S. McCain, Jr., USN, United States Commander-in-Chief, Pacific;

Captain Ikramul Haq Malik, PN, SEATO Military Adviser's Representative for Pakistan, who attended as an observer.

●

Some of the Military Advisers are seen here at the signing ceremony for the 29th Military Advisers Conference which was held at Pattaya on October 19.

COMMUNIQUE

...The Military Advisers reaffirmed the importance of SEATO as a shield against unremitting Communist pressures in South-East Asia. They emphasized their determination to increase the Organization's military effectiveness to resist Communist aggression and subversion in the Treaty Area.

The Secretary-General of SEATO, Lieutenant General Jesus M. Vargas, addressed delegates on the general political situation in the Treaty Area pointing out that Communist pressure, backed up by strong military forces, continued in various countries.

He warned that in the light of the divergence of the two major Communist powers—the Soviet Union and Communist China—South-East Asian countries would have to contend with complementary tactics of support for subversion and insurgency from both the rival Communist powers.

General Vargas praised the progress made in the development of a constitutional system in South Vietnam, allowing all levels of the populace to participate in the country's political life.

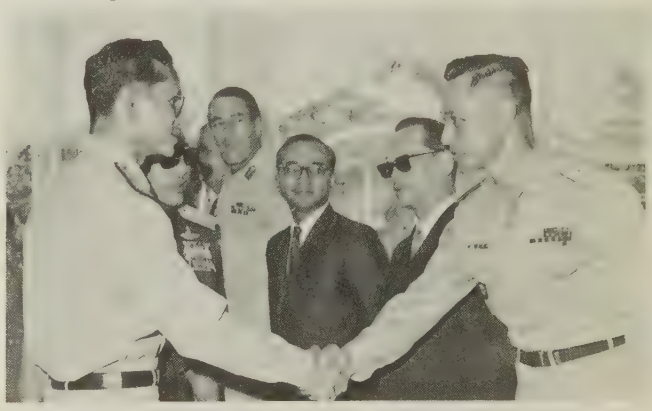
The Military Adviser for Thailand, Air Chief Marshal Dawee Chullasapya, described the pattern and tactics of Communist subversion and insurgency in Thailand and the counter-measures being taken by the Royal Thai Government to meet the situation.

He described how through the Government's intense efforts and the close co-ordination among the authorities concerned, these counter-measures were progressing satisfactorily. The Conference noted the active and determined measures taken by Thailand to control its insurgency problem.

Admiral John S. McCain, Jr., United States Military Adviser, reviewed allied progress in South Vietnam over the past six months. He noted the inability of the Communists to gain any significant battlefield victories and pointed out that repeated defeats with heavy casualties had caused the Communists to rely more and more on regular North Vietnamese forces, infiltrated into South Vietnam in record numbers.

The South Vietnamese forces totalled almost a

In the picture above, His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand talks to the American Ambassador Mr. Leonard Unger (left), the US Military Adviser, Admiral John S. McCain Jr., and the Chief of the MPO Major Gen. Autrey J. Maroun.



His Majesty is pictured above meeting Military Leaders attending the 29th Conference of Military Advisers to SEATO after the signing ceremony at Pattaya.

The U.K. Military Adviser, General Sir Michael Carver, who chaired the Conference, is flanked above by his Representative at SEATO Headquarters, Captain R.E. Wilson, RN (left); and Major-General Autrey J. Maroun (right).

New Zealand's Chief of Defence Staff, Lieut. Gen. Sir Leonard Thornton (left) was met by Air Marshal Bua Sirisapya, Deputy Chief of Staff, Royal Thai Air Force, (second from left), and Mr. G.N. Parkinson from the New Zealand Embassy.

Pictured here (second from left) on arrival at Bangkok airport for the 29th SEATO Military Advisers Conference is General Manuel T. Yan, Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, with his wife.

The Chairman of Chiefs of Staff Commitee, General Sir John Wilton, who is the Australian SEATO Military Adviser is shown above flanked by Rear Admiral W.J. Dovers, RAN (left) and Captain R.J. Scrivenor, RAN.

million men, about 200,000 more than a year ago, and were fighting with courage, skill and effectiveness. Popular antipathy toward the Communists was growing as a result of the Communists' intensified terror campaign and wanton rocket and mortar attacks.

He continued that at the same time the firm leadership and constructive programmes of the Government of President Thieu were attracting increasing popular support. North Vietnam's goal to take over control of the people and resources of South Vietnam was slipping farther and farther from its grasp.

In reviewing the situation in South Vietnam the Conference noted that the United States' contribution now totalled some 540,000 men. The Royal Thai Army Volunteer Regiment had been replaced by the first increment of the Royal Thai Army Volunteer Force (RTAVF).

The RTAVF, now at about half strength, will, when fully deployed, constitute a light infantry division of over 10,000 men. Australian forces in South Vietnam totalled over 7,800 men from all three Services.

Other contributers

New Zealand supported the Republic of Vietnam with an artillery battery and two infantry companies with supporting elements.

The Philippines Civic Action Group numbered some 1,500. The Conference recognized the contribution of other nations in the struggle, especially that of the Republic of Korea with its 50,000-man force in Vietnam.

The Chief of the SEATO Military Planning Office, Major General Autrey J. Maroun, reported on the progress achieved in improving and updating SEATO Military plans since the last conference. The Military Advisers reviewed these plans in the light of the current threat.

In addition they approved a programme of future work for the Military Planning Office. The Conference stressed the importance of SEATO military exercises and approved an exercise programme for the next five years.

It was agreed to hold the next Military Advisers' meeting in Bangkok immediately before the SEATO Council Meeting proposed for May 1969.

STAFF CHANGES AT THE MPO

Two officers leaving the SEATO Military Planning Office at the end of their tour of duty were kept busy recently by a SEATO Working Party, studying the interchangeability of fuel which opened at the SEATO Military Planning Office ealier this month.

One is Lieut. Col. D.D. Salvador, Philippines, (pictured right) Head of the Logistics Division of the SEATO Military Planning Office, shown with Captain F.B. Goodspeed (centre), United States Navy, who was elected Chairman of the Meeting.

Colonel Salvador returns to the Philippines late this month. The other officer is Wing Command P.B. Jelbart, Royal Australian Air Force (left), who returns to Australia in January and who was at the meeting as the Military Planning Office representative.

Standing in the back is Lieutenant Commander G.M. Frias, Philippines Navy, Colonel Salvador's replacement in the Military Planning Office who represented the Philippines at the meeting. Other SEATO countries represented were Australia, Thailand, the United Kingdom and United States.

On his return from Teheran Col. Stafford said that the visit provided a valuable opportunity to exchange information on cartographic matters from which both Organizations will benefit.

Map expert attends CENTO meeting

Lieutenant Colonel R.H. Stafford, Royal engineers, the Cartographic Co-ordinating officer in the SEATO Military Planning Office in Bangkok recently attended as an observer the 11th CENTO Maps and Charts sub-Committee Meeting held at Teheran.

This was the First occasion that SEATO was represented at a CENTO meeting.

Colonel Stafford, (pictured above), who is half way through his two-year tour with SEATO was Commanding Officer of the 72 Engineer Regiment at Gateshead, Co. Durham, England, from 1965 to 1967.

Former Queen's Equerry Joins SEATO

A former equerry to her Majesty Queen Elizabeth of England, has arrived to take up an appointment in the Exercise Planning Group at SEATO Headquarters in Bangkok.

He is Lieut. Col. R.M.C. Cubis, Royal Australian Artillery, who served with the Royal Household in 1962-63. Lt. Col. Cubis succeeds Lieut. Col. B.C. Loveridge who is returning to Australia at the end of his two-year tour.

Col. Cubis commanded the 1st Field Regiment, Royal Australian Artillery when it was deployed to Vietnam as part of the Australian Task Force in 1966. In the picture below Col. Loveridge (right) is briefing him at SEATO Headquarters on his duties.

This 20 mm. cannon from an F4 Phantom fighter was of considerable interest to members of the SEATO Orientation Course during their visit to USAF units operating from the Royal Thai Air Force base at Korat.

SEATO course takes officers on 4,000 kms. orientation trip

An extensive tour through North-East and North-West Thailand covering nearly 4,000 kilometres by air highlighted SEATO's latest eight-day orientation course for 60 military officers from six member nations, held from October 28 to November 4.

Member Nation officers serving at SEATO Headquarters who also paricipated raised the total to 65. Mr. G. T. Marshall, the joint-secretary of the Joint Planning Committee of the Australian Department of Defence in Canberra was the only civilian on the course.

After a one-and-a-half days' briefing at SEATO Headquarters, the course visited the Bangkok Port Authority facilities and the Headquarters of the United States Military Assistance Command, Thailand. They later visited Utapao and Korat air bases and then overflew Ubon, Khemmarat, Loeng Nok Tha, for a bird's

Booby traps are all part and parcel of the Viet-Cong arsenal. Here Mr. H. Young, an adviser at the Chaiya Provincial Police Training Centre demonstrates a crossbow, a favourite Communist weapon, to members of the SEATO Orientation Course.

Below is a Punji Pit — a favourite CT booby trap demonstrated during their visit to the Chaiya Provincial Police Training Centre at Chiang Mai.

WATCH YOUR STEP, OR...

...YOU MAY TREAD ON THIS

'FLYOVER'

eye view of the region, before going to Sakol Nakorn for a briefing at the Advance Headquarters of the 2nd Royal Thai Army. The party then flew to Chiang Mai via Nakorn Panom and Udorn.

At Chiang Mai, the programme included visits to the headquarters of the 7th Regimental Combat Team of the Royal Thai Army, the Chaiya Provincial Police Training Centre and the Tribal Research Centre.

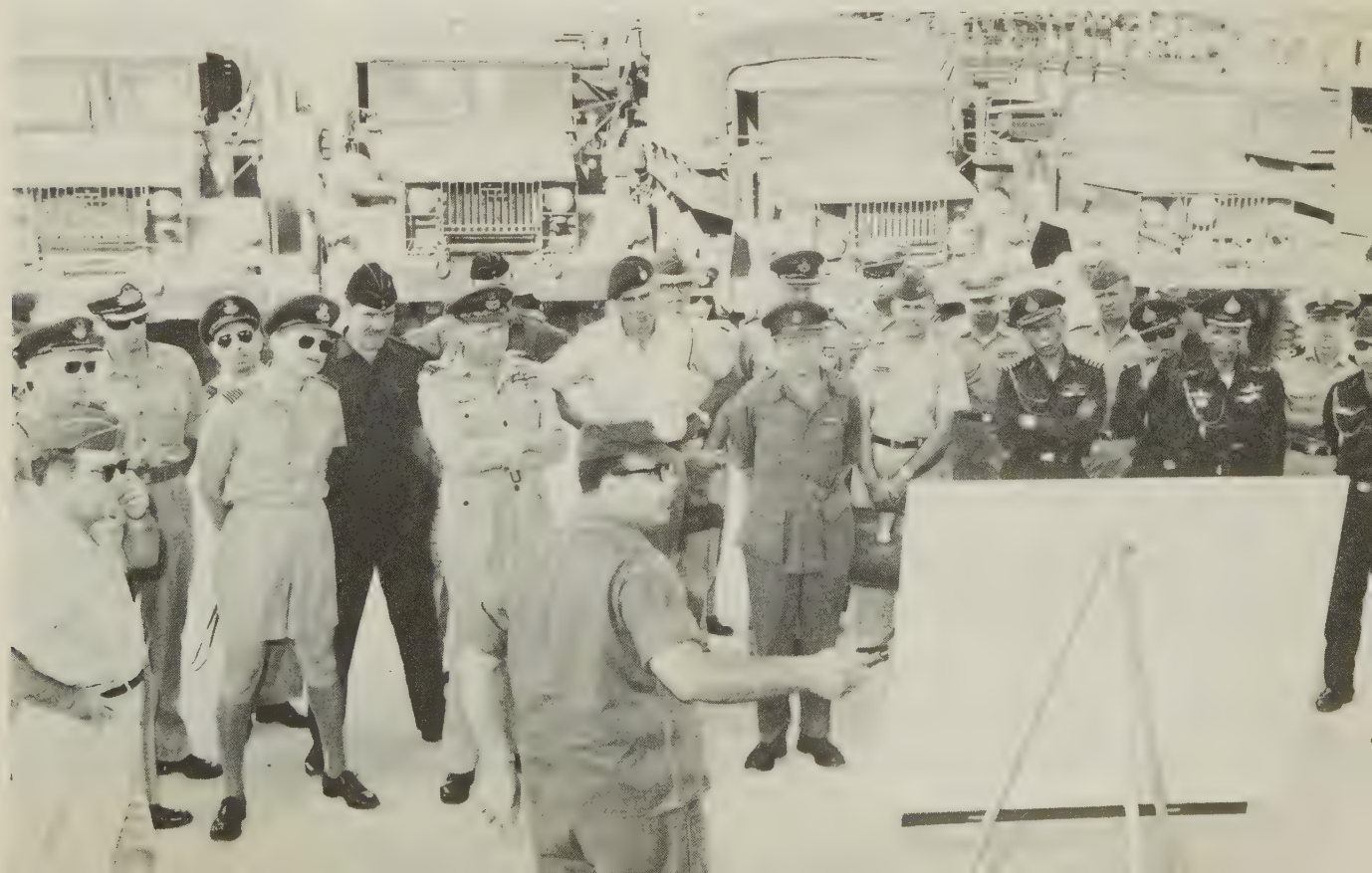
SEATO Orientation courses in many cases provide the only opportunity for military officers, who in the event of an emergency would have to physically implement a SEATO plan, to visit the Treaty Area.

Since they began with one course in 1965, the benefits of such visits have resulted in two courses being held in 1966 and three courses thereafter. SEATO Orientation courses are primarily designed to provide military officers from member nations with an opportunity to study in depth SEATO military activities in the area and to familiarize themselves with the region, its terrain and military facilities. This is done through briefings and by physical inspections.

Additional benefits resulting from SEATO orientation courses are that SEATO planners from member nations' planning staffs become acquainted and have the opportunity to discuss problem areas and to gain a greater understanding of each other's requirements and objectives.

While at the Chaiya Provincial Police Training Centre, members of the course were able to watch Thai Special Action Forces training for operations against Communist terrorists. The picture above shows a demolition demonstration against a "CT" headquarters.

Below, Major T. Laconis, of the Main Support Company at Camp Friendship, Korat, is briefing members of the SEATO Orientation team on the duties of his unit.



Staff behind the scenes set lively pace

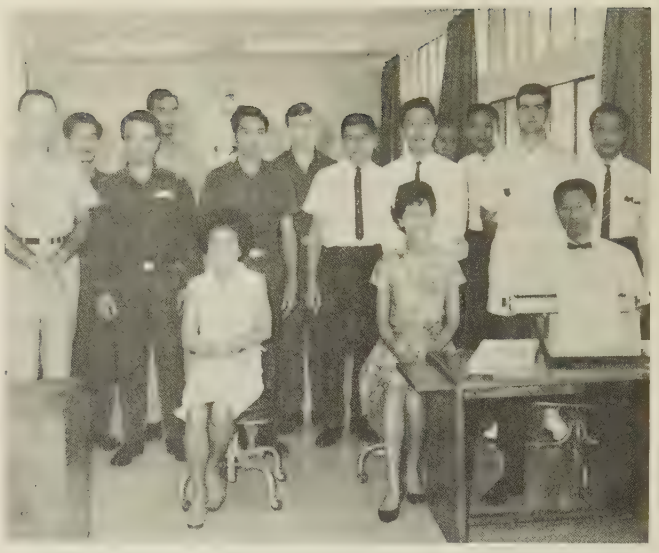
ONE of the busiest sections of the SEATO Military Planning Office in recent months has been the Secretariat headed by Colonel R.C. Victorino, Philippines Constabulary, assisted by Major J.R. McKay Jr., USAF and Squadron Leader G.A. Sherman-Ball, RAF.

Charged as it is with providing for day-to-day Secretariat services to the Military Planning Office for the Military Secretariat, it is also responsible for servicing all conferences and meetings sponsored by the MPO. And beginning with the 29th Military Advisers Meeting in October there have been six other meetings up until the end of December.

All the meetings have naturally produced a large number of papers and reports for circulation and consideration by the member nations. For the 19 members of the Secretariat drawn up of representatives from Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, United Kingdom and the United States, this has meant many extra hours of duty and many weekends spent at the MPO.

The Military Secretariat consists of seven sections: Publications, Registry, Distribution, Reproduction, Typing Pool, Messenger Service and Cartographic. Thailand with 9 representatives provides the largest number of personnel. Mr. Chalau Kokilanandra and Mr. Montri Suyochivin have been with the Secretariat for 10 and 11 years respectively while the minimum period of service for the other members is 6 years. Delegates to all the meetings have commented most favourably on the efficiency and accuracy of the Secretariat.

Recently, in a letter to all members, Colonel Victorino wrote of his appreciation of the efforts of his staff. "A supervisor, no matter how alert and efficient he is, can only allocate the workload and



hope that his people have the initiative, foresight and tenacity to come up with a well-prepared document. This has been demonstrated by you all the time. I salute you for your highly efficient contribution and unselfish loyalty," he said.

A group of Secretariat staff is pictured above.

French officer tours port installations

Colonel J. Reboul, the French Military Attache to Thailand and Liaison Officer to SEATO is pictured below talking to Chief of the Military Planning Office, Major General Autrey J. Maroun, during an inspection of the Bangkok Port Authority facilities carried out recently by officers from the SEATO Military Planning Office.

In the centre background is Captain J.D. Lloyd, United States Army, who is General Maroun's aide.

Communism still basic threat, says Australian defence report

THE 1968 Defence Report tabled in the Australian Parliament recently advances and evaluates the factors which will be considered by the Australian Government in formulating Australia's future defence strategy.

The report put forward a number of basic propositions. It made the point that the security and stability outside Australia which her strategic interests require cannot be achieved solely by military measures. Her defence, political and economic policies had to be fully co-ordinated.

It argued that the basic threat to South-East Asian and Australian security is militant communism. The report says that while the character of the threat earlier posed has changed there remained no evidence that Chinese communist objectives have been modified.

Officer briefed on electronics installations

Group Captain J.A. Weddell, RAAF, Chairman of the eleventh meeting of the SEATO Communications-Electronic Committee visited the Communications Centre being installed at the SEATO Military Planning Office in Bangkok before returning to Australia. Briefing him on the installation in the picture below, is Lieut. Col. H.F. Frailey (right) USAF, of the SEATO Communications Electronic Division.

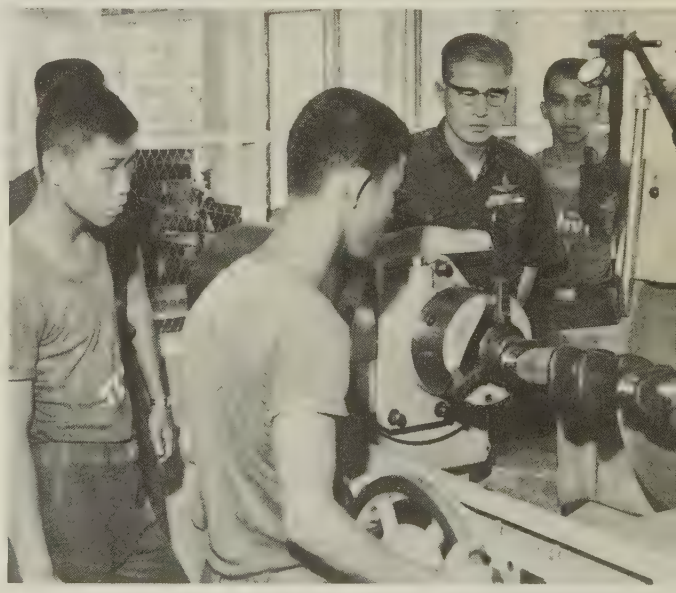
MTTS COMMANDANT VISITS AUSTRALIA

Air Vice-Marshal Chamras Vinakupta, Commandant of Thailand's Military Technical Training School, recently returned from Australia where he visited technical training facilities and held discussions with the authorities concerned with various aspects of training in skilled labour, and technicians in the armed forces.

The School was set up in 1960 as a joint Thai-Australian operation under the auspices of SEATO to help alleviate the shortage of skilled technicians in Thailand.

Accompanied by seven officers and men, Air Vice-Marshal Chamras spent a month in Australia as guest of the Government.

Included in his itinerary were visits to Newcastle Technical College, New South Wales Apprenticeship Commission, and the RAEME (Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers) Training Centre at Bandiana, near Albury.



Air Vice-Marshal Vinakupta is pictured above with students working on a lathe in the machine shop at The Military Technical Training School.

THE WAY AHEAD

IT was in November last year that the SEATO Graduate School of Engineering took on its new identity as the Asian Institute of Technology. On a cool November morning this year we went along to the Insititute on a sort of anniversary visit, to talk to old friends, to take a look at the increasingly cosmopolitan student body, and to get acquainted with newcomers recently arrived to help implement the plans for expanding the Institute.

We made straight for the office of Prof. John Hugh Jones, Professor of Transportation Engineering. He has been in this capacity since 1960, which makes him the longest-serving among the Institute's faculty members. We found him, as we had done many times over the past years, busy between classes preparing the coming issue of the Institute's newsletter of which he is editor.

"Read about the inauguration of coastal engineering as a new area of study in our next number," Prof. Jones told us with characteristic enthusiasm, as usual trying to make such topics sound exciting to laymen. Prof. Jones had previously been for 12 years with the Faculty of Civil Engineering, University of California at Berkeley and was spending a year at Northwestern University when he accepted the SEATO appointment in 1960.

He introduced us to holders of two newly-created posts at the Institute: Mr. Robert Smith, whose services as its Director of Public Relations are contributed by Time Incorporated; and Miss Nisa Shenakul, Mr. Smith's assistant, formerly of the Ministry of Education and the University of Fine Arts, whose father was for 30 years Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Chulalongkorn University.

An Englishman entered Professor Jones' office to say hello and to announce to us his latest research project designed to help solve some of Bangkok's sewerage problems: the denitrification of the Chao Phraya estuary. This was Prof. M.B. Pescod from Britain who, together with another Englishman, Professor Peter C.G. Isaac from the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, set up Public Health Engineering at the SEATO Graduate School in 1964.

Free from controls

Professor Isaac has since returned to Newcastle University and is at present on the AIT Board of Trustees, which consists of 24 members representing 12 countries in and outside Asia— "as individuals and not as representatives of a government"— we were reminded by all those present. Somebody also quoted President Milton E. Bender's words: "In short, this Institute is as free from government controls and as non-political as its founders could conceive."

"The British contingent is seven strong now," Professor Pescod said. "Latest reinforcement is Dr. E.W. Brand from Nottingham University; his field is soil engineering....But come and meet young David." A few minutes later we walked into an impressively large and neat storeroom to shake hands with Mr. David Hooton, 21, who only a few months ago was

Buffalo-riding farmers are still the dominant landscape motif at the site for the future AIT campus 40 miles north of Bangkok, Thailand's capital. Modern equipment in background is part of the recent drilling of a test well by teams from AIT.

It is just over a year since the SEATO Graduate School of Engineering took on its new independent identity as the Asian Institute of Technology. To see some of the changes that have been made during the period of transition our staff writer and photographer spent a day touring the institute and meeting now staff and students.

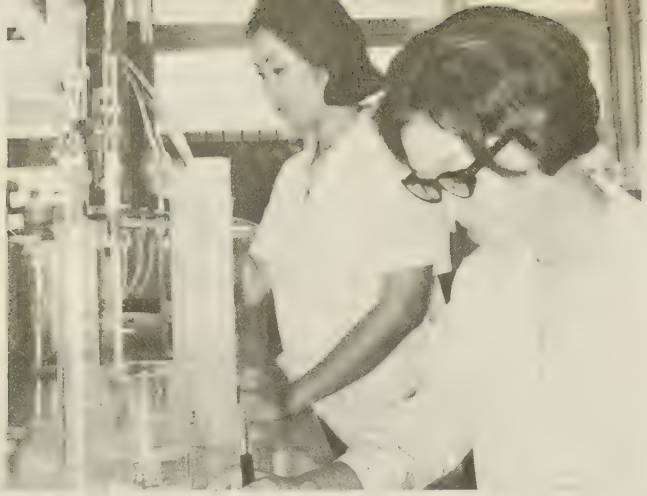
working in the drawing office of the Rolls-Royce aero-engine works at Derby in the English Midlands. His one-year stay in Bangkok as Maintenance Supervisor at AIT has been arranged under the Voluntary Service Overseas programme.

"Every year Rolls-Royce submit abouts 25 names and V.S.O. selects six or seven," Mr. Hooton explained, adding: "I've always wanted an overseas assignment and this place is even more unique than I had expected. It's quite an experience for me to be working with so many nationalities."

The 157 students working for their master's degree in the five branches of civil engineering offered by the Institute at present (structures, transportation, hydraulics, soils and public health) come from 12 countries: Afghanistan, Hong Kong, India, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan the Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, the United Kingdom and South Vietnam.

Members of the teaching, research and administrative staff represent Thailand, the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia and South Vietnam. Expected to join the group in Public Health Engineering next year is Professor Michael G. McGarry of the University of Western Ontario, Canada. In the meantime, academic resources in several other countries continue to be explored, for the eventual enrollment of nearly 700 students is naturally going to demand a great increase in the number of professors.

The Australian on the teaching staff is Dr. Richard Silvester from the University of Western Australia, the man who has been teaching and developing coastal engineering courses soon to be inaugu-



Miss Tieu-Vuong Luong (foreground), a native of Saigon, received her master's degree at AIT last year in public health engineering, and at present works as a Research Associate at the Institute. Pictured with her in the laboratory is Miss Samorn, a Thai technician.

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rated as a new area of study. A summer course organized by the Institute under his direction last May and June aroused world-wide interest among both practising and teaching engineers and applications poured in from India, Israel, Lebanon, Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan and Turkey, not to mention those from SEATO countries.

We dropped in on the South Vietnamese on the staff—Research Associate Miss Luong Tieu Vuong, a native of Saigon. On receiving her master's degree in public health engineering at the Institute last year she decided to join up in order to gain more experience working on practical problems and has been helping Prof. Pescod on the Chao Phraya River project mentioned earlier.

Public Health Engineering seems to be quite popular with girls who have been drawn to this male-dominated profession. Of the five girl students now gracing the campus of AIT—they are all from the Philippines, incidentally—three are doing their first-year in public health and one in hydraulics. The fifth is a second-year student in hydraulics, Macra D. Alfkardo, whose thesis research, which is to earn her the desired degree, deals with the complex phenomenon of unsteady drainage to water tables.

As Afghanistan has always ranked high in our list of intriguing country-names, so will meeting with Mr. Soor Gul Wardak be remembered as a highlight of our visit. First, and so far the only Afghan student at AIT, and in Thailand, coming from mountainous and temperate Kabul, Mr. Wardak found Bangkok extremely hot and incredibly flat—the absence of even a tiny hillock still amazes him. He hopes to get his degree in hydraulics,

Concrete structures are the special subject of Dr. Robert B.L. Smith, shown examining a beam in the Institute's structral laboratory. Dr. Smith has taught structural engineering at Manchester University in England.

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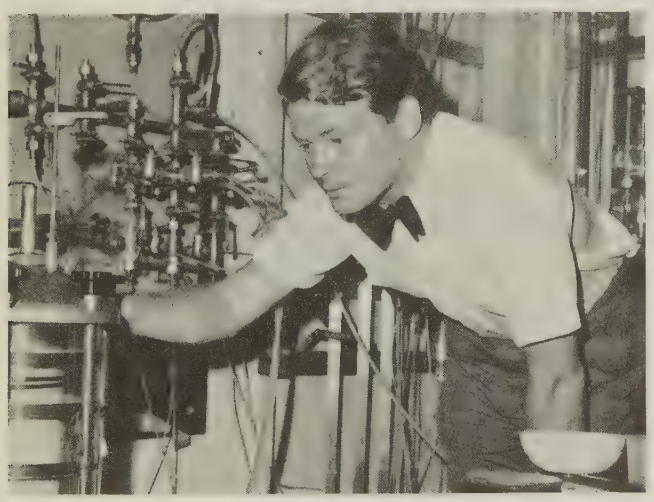
This group of students studying in the library are, from left: Seung Yo Son and Sang-kyu Kim, from Korea; Chin Poon Teoh, from Malaysia; Sun Woo Nahm, (standing) and Byung Hee Kang from Korea; and Narendra Mohan Relia, from India.

We had tracked down Mr. Wardak in the 20,000-volume library—probably the most complete engineering library in this part of the world, and while there we took the opportunity to pay our respects to Dr. Hwa-Wei Lee, the new Librarian. After taking his Bachelor's Degree at the National Taiwan Normal University, Dr. Lee went to the United States, where he obtained his master's degree in library science at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pennsylvania and his Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. Now an American citizen, he has been Chief Librarian and Associate Professor of Library Science at Edinboro State College.

The library, the laboratories, the classrooms and the walks between the three main buildings looked more crowded, more bustling than ever. The atmosphere of overflowing activity on this nine-year-old campus, tucked into a corner of the Chulalongkorn University compound, prompted us to bring up the subject of the new campus with the Dirictor of Public Relations.



A recent addition to the United Kingdom element in AIT is Dr. E.W. Brand, Assistant Professor of soil mechanics at Nottingham University, England. He is shown here at AIT examining a specimen of soil to be subjected to a hydrostatic compression test.

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We are determined to move to the new site by July 1971," Mr. Smith reassured us. "You should have come with us the other day when we went out there to watch the drilling of a test well...Of course, the soil at the new site will be tested here in our soil laboratory for the most suitable foundation design."

The new site is some 40 kilometres north of Bangkok. Another great university of Thailand–Thammasat–has been granted the right to use this piece of land comprising some 1,000 acres, for higher educational purposes, and AIT will be leasing approximately 400 acres from the University for a nominal fee on a long-term basis. Construction is expected to start after the rainy season next year, Mr. Smith said.

The ten-year development programme of AIT envisages–among other things–the introduction of mechanical engineering at the master's degree level in 1972, to be followed by the doctorate after a period of four years.

Short courses included

Electrical engineering is scheduled for1973, again with the doctorate level following four years later. Non-degree programmes will include short courses, conferences on engineering and technological problems affecting the region, and participation by members of other educational institutions on temporary leave-assignment to AIT.

Morning was turning into mid-day as we brought our visit to a close, waving farewell to a group of Korean students chatting in their own language–interspersed with English–which is the language of instruction at AIT.

Our thoughts as we drove away were full of bright visions for the future of this regional-international-cosmopolitan institute devoted to the practical and peaceful pursuit of technological progress for all.

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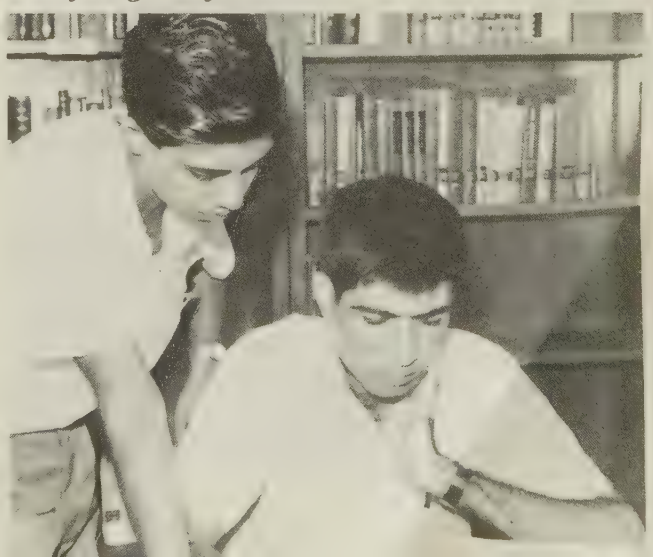
From Kabul, Afghanistan, comes Mr. Soor Gul Wardak (seated), to study for a master's degree in hydraulics engineering. With him is Raziuddin Khaleel from East Pakistan, also majoring in hydraulics.



Seeing the New Year in — Lahu style

DETAILED social studies of hill tribes are an important part of Thailand's efforts to give the most effective forms of assistance to her minority groups—the sort of assistance that would promote not only their well-being but their sense of belonging to the nation and sharing in its destiny.

SEATO has been collaborating with the Thai Government by providing experts to carry out these studies which, while still to be completed, have already yielded much valuable information on the various aspects of different tribal societies.

Apart from facts and figures pertaining to the practical side of existence—the people's health, their economic conditions, their agricultural practices and so forth, the studies also aim at throwing more light on their customs and traditions, their songs and dances and the often elaborate ceremonies through which they express their aspirations for the good life.

As 1968 draws to a close everyone celebrates the New Year in appropriate ways. The tribal people, no less than others all over the world, attach great importance to this occasion and celebrate it in their own particular fashion.

The Red Lahu prayer printed below expresses in simple yet poetic fashion, the needs and aspirations common to us all. There is a strong religious flavour and that link with the supernatural which is not necessarily exclusive to only tribal people.

The prayer was recorded and translated into English by Anthony Walker, an anthropogist whose services are contributed by the United Kingdom under SEATO to Thailand's Hill Tribes Research Centre in the northern city of Chiengmai.

Mr. Walker has been carrying out his social-anthropological study of a Red Lahu village for nearly two years. A bulletin containing accounts of New Year celebrations among the Red Lahu and another hill tribe, the Yao, is in the process of being published by SEATO for the Department of Public Welfare, of which the Hill Tribes Research Centre is a part.

Oh, today is the last day of the year, the last day of the moon, yes, today is the last day of the year, the last day of the moon.

Today, all the headman's people, all the people of the right hand,[a] *yes, all the villagers make the New Year Tree as beautiful as a flower.*

Once again we dress in our new clothes, yes, once again we dress in our new clothes, we dress in many clothes.

Oh, you in heaven, Eternal Guardian of the Year, yes, Eternal Guardian, Oh Decider of the New Year.

You who decide the time of sickness and the time of death, decide this once again for us.

Oh, help us in the time of death and sickness.

Eternal Guardian of the Year, may your four birds[b] *of the year sing beautifully for us at night.*

Guardian who counts all the villagers, this year give good fortune to all the villagers. Oh, this year give us good fortune.

May there be no misfortune in the village.

Oh, Guardian, protect us when we use the knives and axes.

Eternal Guardian in heaven, you who decide the New Year Day and the New moon Day, yes, you who can count all the villagers, Oh give us health this year.

Oh yes, may all the villagers have good fortune and no sickness.

During the next year, protect us so that we may all meet at the next New Year.

Oh may the food and drink not be exhausted. You in heaven who are so rich, let us have wealth.

Oh, you who decide the time of sickness and death, take care of all the villagers.

Oh, tonight I once again pray with a good voice as is the New Year custom.

Oh, we once again follow the New Year Tree in the village.

Tonight, cleanse us of our sins.

Oh, at this New Year time let there be no trouble for the people of the right side and the people of the left side. May all the members of the household have happy thoughts.

May the husbands and wives not separate.

Bless the men and women, everybody.

Grant good fortune to all.

May the animals flourish. May their hairs not fall out.

You in heaven, guardian of the year and of the month, Grant us long lives like old men. Once, again protect us.

Let nobody be killed by men or bitten by spirits.

Everyday and every night, give us blessings as strong as iron.

May everybody, big and small, throughout the year, sleep well and sit well.

May the food and drink taste good.

Give us this blessing. You who take care of us, protect us from all misfortune.

Oh, Guardian in heaven, today we follow the custom of the ancestors.

We make the New Year Tree in the village.

You, Oh Guardian, who knows all the customs of the New Year, bless us.

(a) The male villagers; women are referred to as people of the left hand.

(b) These four celestial birds are two couples of husband and wife. The husbands are brothers. The elder brother and his wife sing for the long life of the villagers, and the younger couple for the wandering souls of the villagers to return to their owners. The Red Lahu believe that sickness follows the loss of a soul from the body.

SEATO: the year in retrospect

In a special radio interview at SEATO Headquarters recently, the Secretary-General, Lieut. Gen. Jesus M. Vargas, reviewed some of the accomplishments of SEATO during 1968 and outlined the role the Organization is likely to play during the coming year in the light of changes and developments within the region as a whole.

Q: *As the year draws to a close, Mr. Secretary-General, what would you say were the major accomplishments of SEATO during 1968?*

A: It is difficult for me to single out any special department or activity of SEATO and say it represents the highlight or major accomplishment. Contributions to the welfare of the peoples of the Treaty Area were made by all departments: students and teachers participated in our cultural exchange programme, informative booklets were published by our public information department, the SEATO medical research laboratory continued its valuable work on malaria, haemorrhagic fever and other diseases that have plagued mankind for centuries in this part of the world.

In Dacca, East Pakistan, a real breakthrough was achieved in the treatment of cholera. As a result of this treatment the mortality rate from cholera has been reduced from 90 per cent to less than one per cent — that is for those who begin treatment on time. But much remains to be done. We are still looking for a more effective cholera vaccine and more effective preventive measures for malaria.

On the military side we have had successful military planning meetings during the year in which military leaders from the SEATO countries participated. There was also the highly successful military exercise named "Ramasoon" in Thailand.

If I had to name one specific project, I would cite the SEATO Agricultural Research Project which was inaugurated this year. Expert agronomists from Thailand, the Philippines, Pakistan and the United Kingdom have been conducting studies on agricultural problems affecting the region — such as weed control, animal health, fisheries and agricultural economics.

Q: *Have you any plans to expand SEATO activities during 1969?*

A: We will continue to maintain our current programmes at the 1968 level. This includes cultural exchange, community development, research, and public information.

An important SEATO activity which has increased in recent years is anti-subversion. We have stepped up our assistance to regional member countries, especially Thailand, in material assistance and by providing lecturers and studies by experts in anti-subversion.

Q: *SEATO has been criticized from time to time by media and by others for its alleged failure to take an active part as an organization in Vietnam. SEATO has been accused of disunity, of inaction, of being a 'paper tiger', not only by the Communists but also by media and even by high ranking officials of the member nations. What is your answer to this type of criticism?*

A: There is nothing new in these criticisms. They have been cropping up ever since SEATO was founded in 1954. Yet 14 years later SEATO is still going strong. It continues to pursue its mission effectively and not one of the member nations has been the object of a direct military aggression by any Communist power. SEATO member nations extend assistance to Vietnam in one way or another and five are involved militarily. I think these facts speak for the strength and vitality of SEATO as an Organization.

Q: *Yet one hears that SEATO has outlived its usefulness; that there is a need for another regional organization. What is your feeling about other regional organizations like ASEAN and ASPAC. Do you think they could supplant SEATO?*

A: I am one hundred per cent in favour of the strengthening of regional organizations for defence in South-East Asia. Our leaders in the Philippines, Thailand, and elsewhere in this part of the world have repeatedly stressed the importance of Asia doing more on its own to build up its economy and defence and to rely less on outside help. This can best be done through regional co-operation.

However, with regard to the defence aspect of such regional organizations, I believe we are not yet in a position to go it alone without the aid of other strong Western powers — particularly the United States. It takes time to build a solid regional organization for defence, which I believe is essential for as long as the peace and security of the region is threatened by Communist aggression. At present SEATO is the only such organization in South-East Asia. ASEAN and ASPAC are organizations whose objectives are economic, cultural and political in nature and in fact they complement SEATO's objectives, except in the defence aspect that SEATO carries.

Q: *Do you believe that if and when peace comes to Vietnam, the danger of Communist aggression will cease to exist or at least be greatly reduced?*

A: The danger of Communist overt aggression in South-East Asia will certainly be reduced. However, I believe that the Communist threat will not be eliminated. I believe that the Communists will step-up covert aggression, even attempts at insurgency and wars of liberation.

This is a hard fact that will dominate the scene in South-East Asia for many years to come. We shall have to continue to maintain a watchful guard even after there has been a cease-fire or peace settlement in Vietnam. We must convince the Communists in unmistakeable terms that they cannot impose their will by military force or by covert operations of their infiltrators and insurgents.

Outside Vietnam the situation is more nebulous and unpredictable. North Vietnamese troops, in clear violation of the Geneva agreements on Laos, are continuing to harrass the people of the Royal Lao Government, the legitimate representatives of the people of Laos.

In Thailand however, they are more of a nuisance than a real threat to the Royal Thai Government. But just as small brush fires can cause enormous conflagrations, we must keep a watchful eye on this type of Communist warfare and the Governments of the Philippines and Thailand have initiated, and continue to initiate, effective measures towards this end.

Prevention is better than cure but it's the cure that makes the headlines. This is the root of much of the criticism levelled against SEATO.

The same criticism was often made against NATO but people woke up when the Russians crushed the opposition in Czechoslovakia in flagrant violation of the principles of self-determination and of the Declaration of Human Rights to which the Soviet Union is a party. Now NATO is being strengthened. SEATO too must be prepared for any eventuality. When communism ceases to be a threat to freedom-loving nations, then SEATO's main purpose will also end. We all look forward to that happy day.

TOO MANY MOUTHS TO FEED...

...and not enough food to go round

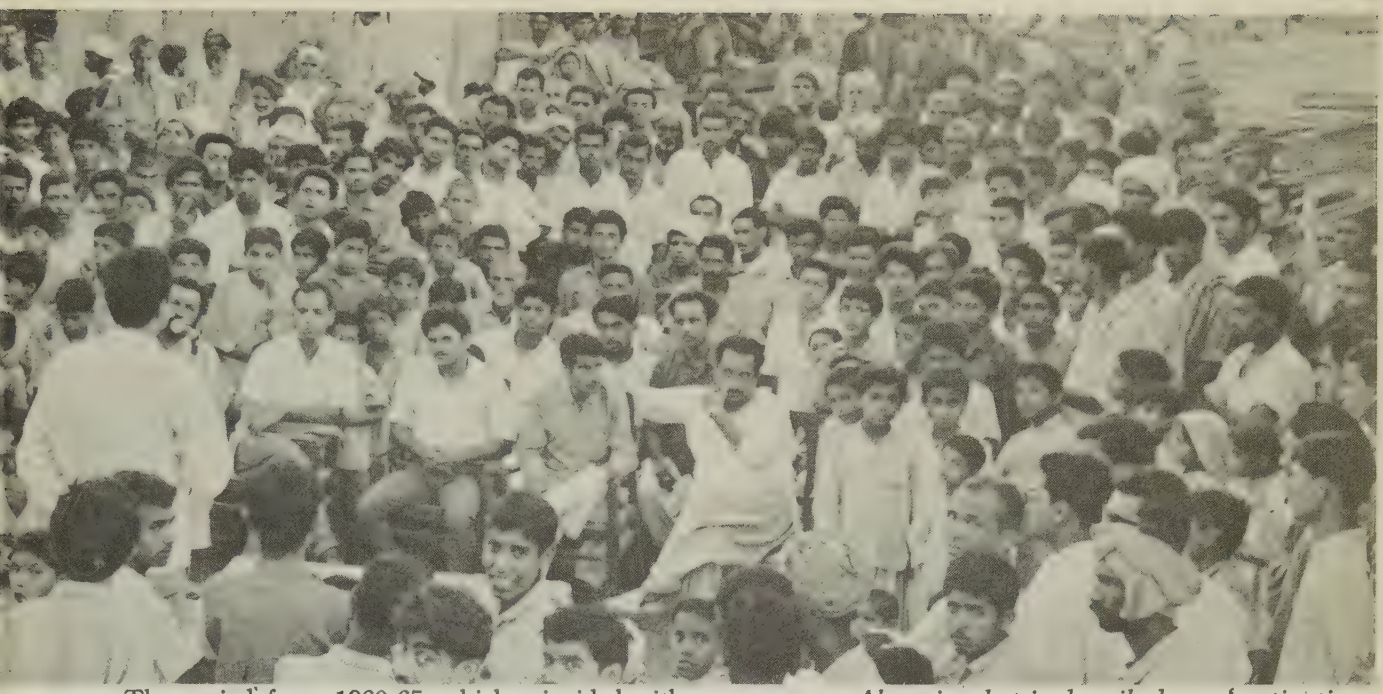
...A problem as old as time itself which is being successfully tackled in Pakistan with a family planning scheme that is an inspiring example to other nations with over-population problems.

"FAMILY planning is the most important need for Pakistan, and if by the end of the third Five Year Plan the targets of the Family Planning Scheme are not achieved, all the development projects of Pakistan will be of no use, as increase of population is the biggest menace to this country." That is what Mr. Enver Adil, Secretary to the Government of Pakistan Family Planning Division, said at the five-day Family Planning Seminar held at Abbotabad, West Pakistan, in 1966.

All over the world nations are carrying out, or have been forced to start carrying out, measures to ensure that their economic gains will not be nullified by continuing rapid rise in population. In this fight to curb the birth rate, Pakistan's vigorous programme serves as an inspiring example to other nations in similar circumstances.

It started out in 1952-53 as activities of a voluntary association — the Family Planning Association of Pakistan, affiliated with the International Planned Parenthood Federation, which had been founded only five years earlier. Though operating on a limited scale, with limited funds and no government support, and in spite of misunderstanding, scepticism and prejudice about their work, the Association was able to serves as a spearhead for the national campaign that followed a few years later.

It was President Ayub Khan himself who in 1958, after the Revolution, gave the needed governmental green light by instructing the Ministry of Health to formulate a national scheme for Family Planning. Things began to move fast, beginning with the training of senior medical and para-medical staff in various health regions who in their turn gave training to personnel at the district level on the dangers of population explosion and what the ordinary citizens can do to help avert them; in other words, on the whys and hows of planned parenthood. By January 1960, ninety Family Planning Clinics had been set up and manned by competent men and women who were able to start their services of advising the people and initiating birth control methods.



Above is what is described as a 'motivation meeting' — a gathering typical of many held throughout the country at which a senior family planning officer explains why controlling the size of families is important.

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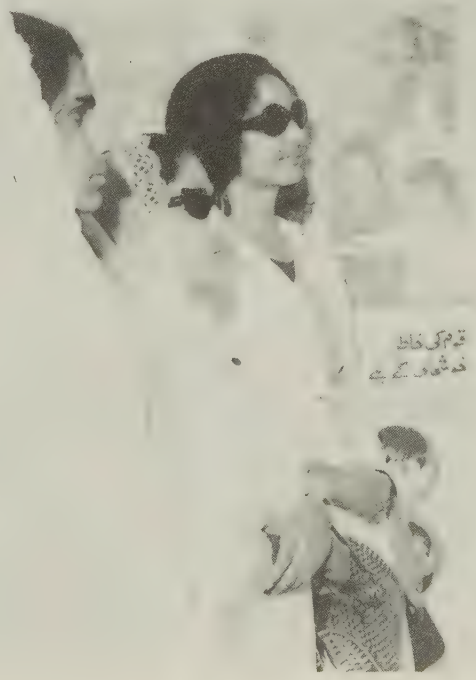
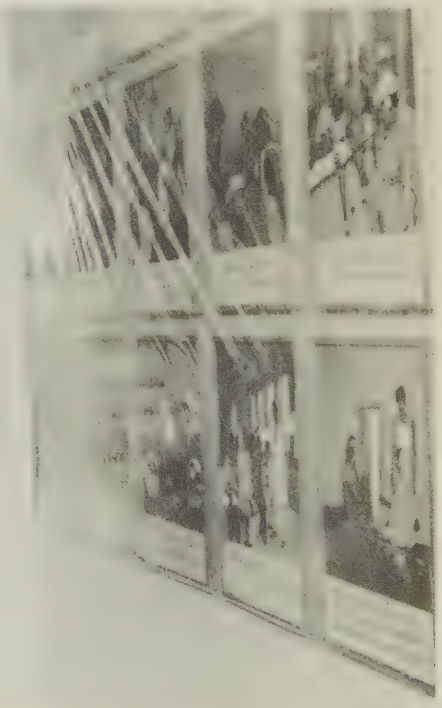
Mothers are pictured below attending one of the numerous mobile family planning exhibitions that tour remoter areas of the country.

The period from 1960-65, which coincided with Pakistan's second Five Year Plan, has been considered by those concerned with the Family Planning campaign as their formative period, with services rendered primarily through the normal channels of government health agencies while at the same time providing them with the experience and data necessary for the full implementation of the National Family Planning Programme officially inaugurated in 1965.

The following year brought such heartening success that the Deputy Secretary of the Family Planning Board, West Pakistan, was in a position to report with great confidence that the shortage of imported contraceptive supplies and lack of transport facilities which had hampered the Programme "are by and large overcome;" that "the Government has taken care to subsidise the family planning services heavily;" and that "the people have to pay only a nominal price for the purchase of conventional contraceptives; IUD (in-





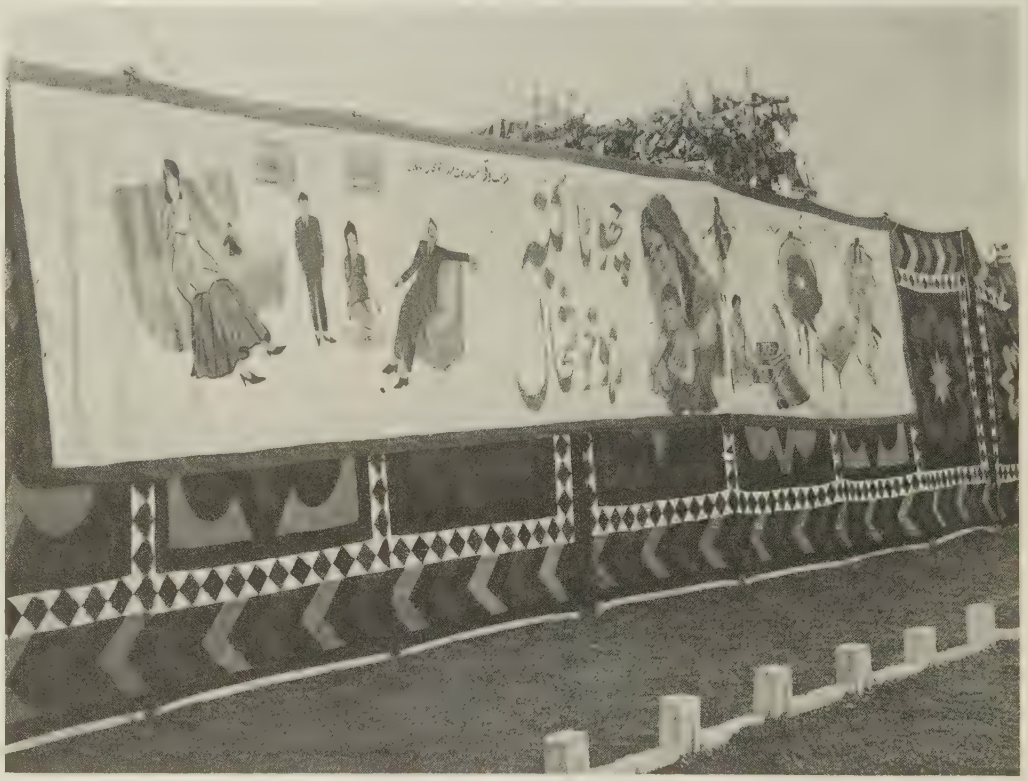
tra-uterine contraceptive device) is free; and those undergoing clinical sterilization receive monetary incentives."

As the campaign gained momentum, the supply of technical workes threatened to become seriously short. One of the methods devised by Pakistan to help solve this problem deserves to be mentioned here. This is a programme launched a few years ago whereby girls who have matriculated from school receive a year's training—four months in theories and eight in practical work—to become Lady Family Planning Visitors. In 1967 an editorial board composed of Pakistan and foreign experts produced a textbook for lady visitors—trainees whose subjects range from microbiology and gynaecology to demographic and economic aspects of family planning to the technique of IUD. Although written as a textbook it is of great value to anyone concerned with the problem of controlled population, and its success is evidenced by the fact that copies are on sale not only in Pakistan but many other countries throughout the world.

Voluntary male surgical operation—vasectomy—has been receiving equal attention in the campaign as the female aspect of birth control. East Pakistan was for a few years the more active wing in this respect, but West Pakistan has been catching up and by the end of April, 1968, more than 250 male doctors in 17 districts of West Pakistan have been trained and registered to perform vasectomies. At a number of clinics, district surgical officers work extra long hours to finish the average load of 15-20 hours per day. In Lahore and Karachi the number of vasectomies performed has risen several hundred per cent over those of the same months in 1967.

Planners of Pakistan's Family Planning Scheme have aimed to bring population growth down to 2.6% per year by 1970. To achieve this target the scheme has been designed "to cover by 1970 all the 20 million fertile couples in Pakistan (except tribal areas, Quetta and Kalat Divisions, and the Chittagong Hill tracts) with the Family Planning Programme."

Which brings us to the subject of communication and publicity. For there is no doubt in anyone's mind that success or failure of the programme may well result from success or failure of its publicity campaign, to educate, persuade, and motivate the masses of the people to "adopt family planning as a way of life," as a high official put it. It was in this spirit that an agreement was signed by Pakistan with the Royal Swedish Government who undertook, among other activities, the task of establishing communication media sections at Karachi, Dacca, and Lahore. Pakistanis



Here a publicity poster is displayed on family planning at one of the many travelling exhibitions.

Tact in the method of presentation so as not to offend sen sibilities has been a big factor in stimulating interest. The slogan on this poster reads. "The smaller your family the more prosperous you are."

Here a group of Afghan delegates attend a Family Planning Centre in one of the rural areas of Hyderabad District.

were sent to Sweden in 1962 for specialized training in mass media communication, and the Sections went into operation in 1965.

At present, visitors to Pakistan are apt to be struck by the pervasiveness of family planning information — on the radio and television screens, in the press and magazines, on the walls of government and private buildings and, particularly, in the conversations and discussions of people in various walks of life.

Not that all resistance to the still comparatively novel idea of planned families has been completely overcome. No one connected with the programme expects that the change in social habits, reflecting centuries-old tradition, can ever be totally achieved in a few short years, no matter how justifiable the change may be or how urgently it is needed.

According to reports by family planning officers, two of the questions most frequently asked by doubters of the programme are: whether it would not be better if funds allocated for family planning were utilized for some more productive project; and whether family planning is 'right' for a religious nation like Pakistan. The answer to the first question is that although the achievement made during the Second Five Year Plan was astonishing, it was neutralrized by the rapid population growth and thus, the standard of living remained low in spite of the many 'productive' projects. To the second question, planning officers usually reply to the effect that Islam gives importance to the material side of man as well as the spiritual. One officer likes to point out that the Holy Prophet knew that birth control was being practiced during his lifetime and chose to leave the issue up to the discretion of the individual.

But the fact that the people are asking questions is in itself an encouraging sign. For birth is a matter of life and death to Pakistan, as all family planning officers know, and they would welcome even fierce argument about it rather than be frustrated by indifference.

Posters and photographs play a big part in publicising the family planning campaign, particularly in remoter regions and among farming communities where simplicity of approach through the visual media is often the most effective. Shown here is a typical pictorial display.

Party time for tiny (and not so tiny) tots...

AS in years gone by the 1968 Christmas party for children whose parents are on the staff of SEATO proved a great success, with more than 300 youngsters chaperoned by mothers and fathers attending the event.

The party, organized by the SEATO Wives Group, was held this year in the SEATO cafeteria which was decorated with streamers, balloons and fairy lights for the occasion—including a handsome Christmas tree beneath which sat Santa Claus in traditional red cloak surrounded by a mound of gaily wrapped gifts... so many gifts in fact that there were more than enough to go around with many children being handed two packages instead of one. This was largely because of a lucky-number competition whereby each youngster was given a number on arrival at the party and these were later drawn, the winners each receiving an additional gift.

But Father Christmas and his parcelled charges were by no means the only attractions: there was entertainment provided by a group of Thai children performing classical dances; Filipino, American and Pakistan children performing traditional Philippine dances; New Zealand boys doing a Maori war dance; and to round off the show a comedy item (in true slapstick pie-throwing style) by two NCO's of the United Kingdom Signals Group.

Aside from these attractions the children

Father Christmas leans over indulgently to help one of the many children to whom he gave gifts unwrap one of the parcels.

were able to ply themselves with as much ice cream, cakes and bottles of pop as their youthful digestions could cope with (or otherwise)...

The prizes for the lucky-number winners were presented by Mrs. Vargas, wife of the Secretary-General of SEATO and Mrs. P. Joplin, the secretary of the SEATO Wives Group. The MC was Group Captain Chalerm Chittinanda, senior research officer.

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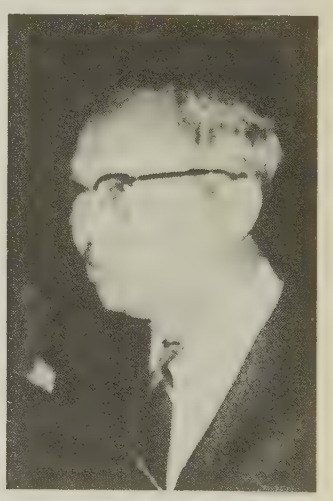
Some of the young performers who staged dances at the party are pictured here before the Christmas tree.

Human Rights: 'We must translate ideals into actions'



..SAYS U THANT

The celebration of Human Rights Day on December 10, 1968 had a special significance because it commemorated the twentieth anniversary of the adoption and proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 10 December 1948. In a special message to mark the occasion the United Nations Secretary General, U Thant, said:

"A unique international instrument and one of the world's greatest proclamations, the Declaration has served not only to promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms throughout the world, but also to further the cause of peace and justice. These universal aspirations of mankind—peace and justice, and the full realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms—are, in my view, so inseparably linked that one cannot be achieved without the other.

He said the road pointed out by the United Nation—to a world where each human being will be free from the fear of war, will receive his equitable share of the goods which can now be produced and will be respected in his inherent dignity as a human being—was the only road which thoughtful persons everywhere could envisage as worthy for mankind to follow.

"The insistence of the United Nation," he emphasised, "upon the realization of the right of dependent peoples to self-determination has been a powerful factor in the attainment of independence by millions who once lived in humiliating conditions under a colonial system. One needs only to compare the membership of the Organization today with its membership in 1948 when the Universal Declaration was adopted to realize how immense are the advances in the direction of self-government and independence."

Poverty and despair

"Yet the vast majority of mankind continues to live in what can only be described as a sub-human state, in poverty and despair, and to suffer from the effects of squalor, diseases and illiteracy."

"Together with such other instruments as the Declaration of the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the Declaration and Convention, on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Genocide Convention, the Slavery Conventions of 1926 and 1956, and a whole series of conventions aimed at advancing the status of women, they constitute a veritable code of law on human rights, with provisions by which members of the United Nations should abide in the moral sense, and which should also become binding in the legal sense wherever this is not yet the case."

The Secretary General added that the United Nations, in the two decades since the Universal Declaration was adopted, had fashioned much of the legal machinery necessary for the realization of the principles which the Declaration proclaimed. The two Covenants on Human Rights, adopted in 1967, elaborated those principles and provided the means for their protection by the international community.

While justifiably proud of these achievements, said U Thant, the United Nations should now proceed even more rapidly than in the past to translate ideals into actions.

"If it is to meet the hope of mankind for a world in which there are no major transgressions of human rights and fundamental freedoms, it must on the one hand perfect procedures to deal with gross violations of civil and political rights wherever they may occur, and on the other hand develop the material means and forms of co-operation for promoting the full enjoyment by everyone of economic, social and cultural rights."

There were still too many areas where the individual citizen's right to complain of a violation of his rights or freedoms was offset by the absence of efficient national procedures and processes to enable the complaint to be disposed of promptly and fairly, or where justice was hampered by the tremendous costs involved. There were still too many areas where unemployment undermined the right to work, where illiteracy inhibited the right to education, where poverty and squalor made a mockery of the right to health, where conflict and violence negated the enjoyment of every human right and fundamental freedom.

"The stimulation of action on the national level to promote and to protect human rights is an important method which the United Nations has used successfully in the past and will continue to use," the Secretary General added. "The Universal Declaration has been most effective in providing broad ethical standards and obligations, applicable to all members of the international community, and in setting up a standard of achievement which nations and peoples can themselves apply.

"Indeed, many States already have established effective governmental and social machinery with the wide powers and the means for giving effect to the international instruments and the constitutional and legislative texts which guarantee civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

Genuine acceptance

"But today," continued U Thant, "we recognize the need for something more than can be accomplished by action on a national scale. The international community has accepted the responsibility for co-operation in eradicating massive denials of human rights."

The main effort, he concluded, should now be directed toward the earliest possible genuine acceptance by every eligible State of the international human rights treaties adopted by the United Nations. There was no other way to create the machinery required for the full and effective defence of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Mr. Hinton, is shown in this picture (left) going over sheets of Thai words and phrases with Mr. Oughton.

AGRONOMIST JOINS TRIBAL CENTRE

INCREASING Australian assistance to its Asian allies in SEATO has brought two young researchers to this country. Anthropologist Peter Hinton, a graduate of the University of Sydney, has been here two and a half years, serving as adviser to Thailand's Tribal Research Centre in the northern city of Chiang Mai and also conducting a social study of the Karen tribe in a remote mountain village outside the city.

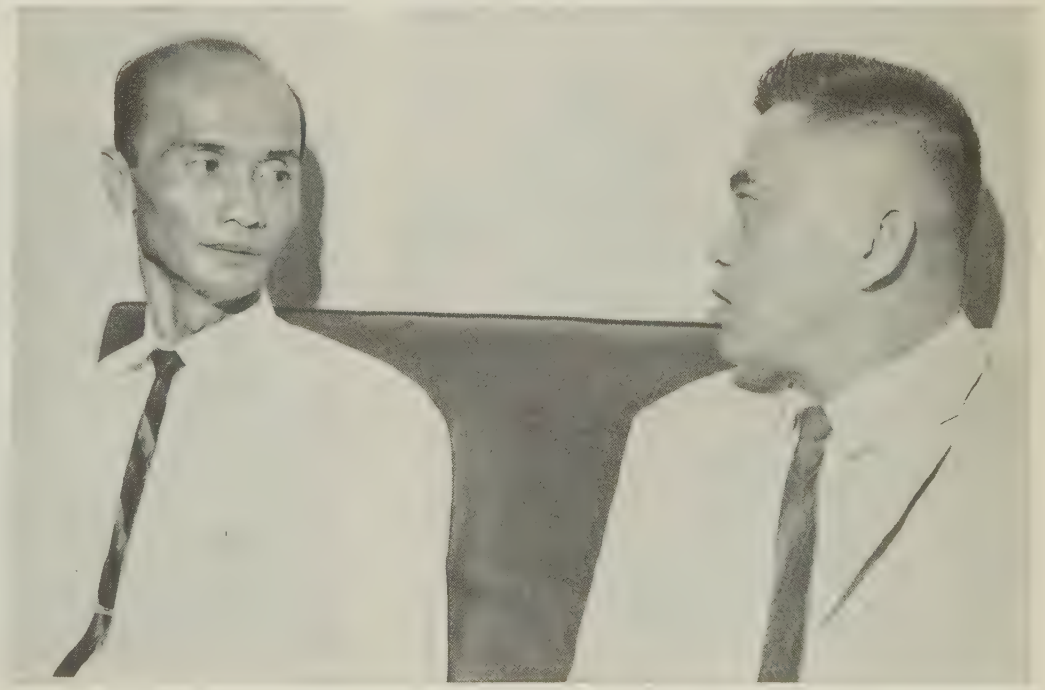
Garry Oughton, formerly Manager of the Forthside Vegetable Research Farm in Tasmania and a graduate of Melbourne University, recently arrived to take up his appointment as Agricultural Research Officer at the Tribal Centre. His services, like those of Mr. Hinton, are being contributed by the Australian Government under SEATO.

Mr. Oughton is on a two-year appointment and is a graduate in Agricultural Science from Melbourne University. He has worked in various fields of agricultural development and included in his wide experience was a period of three years in Fiji as supervisor of a student-farmer scheme, based at Navusio Agricultural School near Suva.

Thai expert visits Pakistan, Philippines

Dr. Bunjerd Khatikarn (left), Director of Research at Kasetsart University and consultant on agronomy to the SEATO Agricultural Research Project, recently returned from a two-week's tour of East Pakistan where he conferred with Pakistan authorities on further activities for the SEATO Project. Pictured with him is Mr. E.G. Robles, SEATO Economic and Social Affairs Officer.

He recently retuned from a similar visit to the Philippines where he consulted with experts at the International Rice Research Institute, the Bureau of Plant Industry at Davao, and other authorities.



50,000 visit SEATO trade fair exhibit

THE SEATO exhibit at Thailand's recently held International Trade Fair attracted large crowds of sightseers and by the end of the 18-day festival, more than 50,000 people were estimated to have visited the Organization's stand.

The theme of the SEATO show was "Mutual Assistance for Economic Development", and showed pictorially and by means of films, and 'live' exhibits, the varied projects with which the Organization is closely linked.

Angled panels featured among other things the SEATO Agricultural Research Project, the Pakistan-SEATO Cholera Re-search Laboratory, the SEATO Medical Research Laboratory and Clinical Research Centre in Bangkok, the Military Technical Training School, the Vehicle Rebuild Workshop, and the Skilled Labour Project.

The centre-piece was a colourful map of the world, highlighting SEATO member countries, and the various projects in which they are involved under the Organization.

This general view of the SEATO exhibit at the Trade Fair shows some of the projects depicted on angled panels with a large scale map as the centre-piece.

The Fair was arranged and sponsored by the Government of Thailand, and proceeds have been provisionally estimated at six million baht. Meanwhile, the many orders placed by firms and business organizations for products on display at national stands are still being assessed in terms of monetary value.

Among those who visited the SEATO stand on the opening day of the fair were General Autrey J. Maroun, Chief, Military Planning Office (left), who is pictured here shaking hand with Secretary of foreign Affairs of the Philippines, Narciso Ramos (right) while the Secretary-General of SEATO, Lieut. General Jesus M. Vargas (centre) looks on. In the background are Mr. E.G. Robles the SEATO Cultural and economic Affairs Officer (left) and Mr. Reynaldo Arcilla, Attache at the Philippines Embassy.

ITEMS IN BRIEF

SEATO Fellow studies Ifugao tribe

Life among the Ifugao and other tribes in Northern Luzon in the Philippines, was discussed at great length in a talk given recently at SEATO Headquarters by the distinguished anthropologist Dr. Christoph Von-Furer Haimendorf, pictured here before the lecture with SEATO Secretary-General, Lt. Gen. Jesus M. Vargas.

Dr. Haimendorf, who is Professor of Asian Anthropology at the University of London, has been granted a SEATO research fellowship to carry out a study of social change among the hill tribes of the Philippines, and spent four months, from September to December, living and working among the hill peoples.

Research project on buffaloes

The growing demand for milk and meat to feed the growing populations of SEATO countries has increased the importance of the water buffalo as a source of food, in addition to that of its time-honoured role as an all-purpose farm animal.

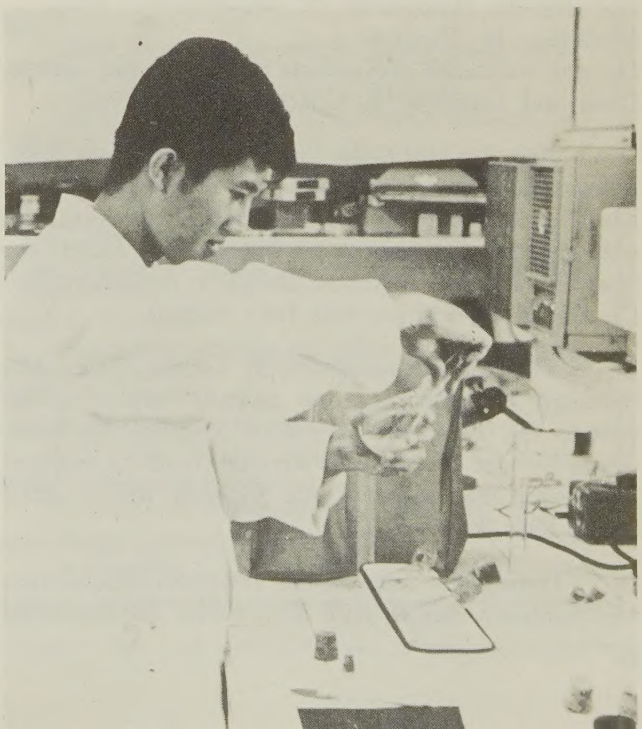
Surachai Chakriyarat, 26, an instructor in the Animal Science Department, Kasetsart University in Bangkok, who won a SEATO post-graduate scholarship to study for a master's degree in the Philippines, has been carrying out a study, the findings of which will contribute towards the improvement and development of native buffaloes in the Philippines, Thailand and other countries in this area.

Surachai is attending the University of the Philippines College of Agriculture at Laguna.

For the experimental part of his study, however, he has been working at the National Artificial Breeding Centre, Muntinlupa, Rizal, where he is shown in the picture below preparing frozen buffalo semen for use in a series of tests to assess its quality, freezability and fertility.

The study is in connection with the general effort to upgrade the quality of native buffalo stock through use of artificial insemination from Murrah buffaloes, considered the best dairy type of buffaloes in the world and imported from India.

Surachai's SEATO Scholarship, originally for 1967-68, has been extended for another year on the basis of the usefulness of his work.



AUSTRALIAN OFFICER JOINS SEATO

Colonel W.D. Jamieson who is to succeed Captain R.J. Scrivenor as the Australian Military Adviser's Representative to the SEATO Military Planning Office is pictured here on his recent arrival in Thailand. He was met at the airport by the Chief of the SEATO Military Planning Office, Major General Autrey J. Maroun, the Australian Services Attache to Thailand, Colonel D.H. Crompton, and Captain Scrivenor. From left to right: Captain Scrivenor, Colonel W.D. Jamieson, General Maroun and Colonel Crompton.

Close medical links between U.K.-Thailand

The British Ambassador to Thailand, Sir Neil Pritchard, recently paid a visit to the University of Medical Sciences' Faculty of Tropical Medicine, in Bangkok. He was welcomed and shown round by the present Dean and Director, Dr. Chamlong Harinasuta.

Also on a visit to the Faculty was Professor Brian Maegraith, Dean of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine in England, which has had a long association with the establishment of the International Centre for Study of Tropical Medicine, Bangkok, and where both Dr. Chamlong and his wife have studied.

Thailand's Ambassador in London, H.E. Mr. Sunthorn Hongladarom, has recently paid a similar visit to the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, where he met Thai doctors who are currently engaged in research into some of the diseases which afflict South-East Asia.

During his tour of the Liverpool laboratories, Mr. Sunthorn talked with Dr. Nibha Jaroonvesama (working for a Ph.D. on malaria), Dr. Panorjit Jariya (Ph.D. on schistosomiasis), Dr. Charin Chesdapan (Ph.D. on schistosomiasis), Dr. Supatr Sucharit (Ph.D. filariasis) and Dr. Pramulmal Chantravekin (Ph.D. on malaria), all of whom are from Bangkok.

CENTO study on road-rail links

The latest reports on progress in constructing CENTO communications projects linking Turkey, Iran and Pakistan will be reviewed at the annual meeting of the Organization's Sub-Committee on Communications and Public Works. The Group's meeting is scheduled to open in Ankara in early January.

The CENTO projects under review include the joining of the Turkish and Iranian and the Iranian and Pakistan road and rail systems; the development of the Turkish Mediterranean port of Iskenderun; the CENTO air navigational aids project—most elements of which are now in operation; and completed telecommunications links.

The meeting is of particular importance in that the accelerating pace of industrial development in Iran, Pakistan and Turkey will rely on these major communications and transport systems to facilitate internal and external movement.

On your Bookshelf

FAIRBAIN, Geoffrey. Revolutionary Warfare and Communist Strategy; the threat to South-East Asia. London, Faber and Faber, 1968. 286p. 355.425

KING, John A. Economic Development Projects and their Appraisal; cases and principles from the experience of the World Bank. Baltimore, Johns Hopkins, 1967. xii, 530p. 338

SCHROCK, Joann L. Minority Groups in the Republic of Vietnam. Washington, D.C., American University, 1966. x, 1163p. 323.1597

SHIELDS, James J. Education in Community Development; its function in technical assistance. New York, Praeger, 1967. vii, 127p. 309.22

THE SECRETARY GENERAL, THE CHIEF, MILITARY PLANNING OFFICE, AND STAFF OF THE SOUTH-EAST ASIA TREATY ORGANIZATION EXTEND THE SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL READERS OF THE "SEATO RECORD".

SEATO PUBLICATIONS

(The following publications may be obtained, on request, from the Public Information Office, SEATO Headquarters, P.O. Box 517, Bangkok, Thailand.)

SEATO Annual Report 1967-68 (English, Thai) — by Lt. Gen. Jesus M. Vargas, Secretary-General of SEATO.

SEATO: 1954-1964 (Thai) — A pictorial and written review of 10 years of SEATO progress.

Story of SEATO (English, Thai)
Information pamphlet on SEATO with notes on member countries.

Manila Pact and Pacific Charter (revised 1968)
Texts of the South-East Asia Collective Defence Treaty and the Pacific Charter, with explanatory notes.

Gandhara Sculpture in Pakistan (English, Thai)
The origin and development of Gandhara art.

Aspects of the History, Culture and Religions of Pakistan
Lectures by Dr. Ishtiaq Hussain Qureshi, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Karachi, as a travelling lecturer under the SEATO Cultural Programme.

Interpretative Translations of Thai Poets
by M.R. Seni Pramoj.

SEATO Activities Under the Cultural Relations Programme
SEATO activities from 1957-1964 in the field of education.

Post-graduate Studies in Asian SEATO Countries
A guide for applicants for SEATO post-graduate scholarships.

Collective Security: Shield of Freedom (Revised, 1963)
The nature and scope of the various collective security pacts linking 41 nations of the Free World. Foreword by Mr. Pote Sarasin, former Secretary-General of SEATO. 165 pp.

Medical
Research into Disease—I (Revised): Cholera (Pakistan —SEATO Cholera Research Laboratory) in English and Thai.

Research into Disease — II: The Search for Health (SEATO medical projects in Thailand).

Research into Disease—III: Malaria (SEATO Medical Research Laboratory, Bangkok) in English and Thai.

Community Development
Report of the SEATO Seminar on Community Development, July 19-23, 1965. In English and Thai.

The Role of Youth in Asia
Report of the SEATO Seminar on 'Youth's Response to Challenges in Asia', Feb. 13-17, 1967.

Skilled Workers for the Armed Forces (English, Thai)
A description of the SEATO Military Technical Training School, Bangkok.

Training Workers for Developing Industries (English, Thai)
An account of the SEATO Skilled Labour Project in Pakistan, the Philippines and Thailand.

Posters:
Better Communications for Better Living (English, Thai)
Skilled Hands for National Progress (English, Thai)
The Painter's View of his Country — I
Good Health Key to National Prosperity
Highway To Health (SEATO-Cholera Research Laboratory, Dacca).
A Helping Hand On The Land (SEATO Agricultural Research Project).

Communist Economic Subversion: A Reappraisal
by Dr. Hans Heymann Jr. A discussion of the growing Communist reliance on economic measures as tools of foreign policy.

Peking on Revolution
Extracts from speeches and articles on the 90th anniversary of the birth of Lenin indicating the demand for revolutionary uprising.

Communism in Decline: the Huk Campaign
by Lt. Gen. Jesus M. Vargas.

Defeating Communist Insurgency
by Sir Robert Thompson (Thai translation)

Radio Writers Handbook (English, Thai)
by Madeleine C. Meyer.

Printed by Sompong Chaicharoen at the Sompong Press Ltd. Part. 1418 Pracharasdr Road, Bangkok, December 1968

A SPIDER WEB OF ANTENNAS AT THE COMMUNICATIONS SITE OF THE U.S. 29TH. SIGNALS GROUP, KORAT, FORMS AN IMPRESSIVE BACKDROP DURING A BRIEFING FOR OFFICERS ATTENDING THE RECENT SEATO ORIENTATION COURSE.